

AGAWAM

Advertiser-News

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Volume XXII Number 7

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 18, 1999

Senior Athletes Hold Huge Tag Sale...



ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, members of the ASGA (Agawam Senior Games Athletes) held a huge tag sale at the Agawam Senior Center. The tag sale featured a Valentine's Day theme and offered a large variety of items, a bake sale, grab bags, and a raffle. IN LEFT PHOTO: Edna Duca, Vi Presz, and Chris Plumobo. IN MIDDLE PHOTO: Pauline Provost, Janice Bonk, and Edie Chiba. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Harry Ingram, Angelo Polumbo, Desiree Jacobs, and Hal Deyo. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Regarding Child Found Sleeping On School Bus...

Parents Dispute School Officials' Account Over Controversial Incident

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The parents of a five year-old child reportedly found sleeping on a school bus 45 minutes after the expected drop-off time dispute school officials' account of the February 5th incident. But, school officials decline to comment on the parents' claim.

Executive Director of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative (LPVEC) Richard Labrie said he was acting on the advice of counsel in declining the opportunity to comment because the matter is in litigation.

Last week, Labrie told *The AAN* that the LPVEC, which runs the Agawam youngster had been taken from an all-day kindergarten program at Agawam School, was instituting a new policy of requiring their drivers to place a bright pink sign stating "This Bus Is Empty" in the rear window of their buses as an added safety precaution to ensure their drivers walk the length of the bus at the end of the day after a student was sleeping on a bus parked at the Springfield School.

Labrie said the driver had been disciplined for

failing to follow the established procedure of checking the bus at the end of the day and that the child was transported home after being found asleep on the bus about 45 minutes after the expected drop-off time.

But, the child's parents say school officials are trying to downplay a serious and frightening incident.

A Nightmarish Two Hours

Vanessa Ghidoni says she, her husband, Vincent, and ex-husband, Jeff Touchette, lived through a nightmarish two hours before their special needs daughter, Dominique Touchette, was returned home safely by the driver who had left the sleeping child on the bus.

Mrs. Ghidoni said she first became alarmed when she was unable to reach the bus driver by cell phone about 10 minutes after 3:00 p.m., when Dominique is usually dropped off. After contacting the LPVEC around 3:15 p.m. to report the bus had never arrived, Mrs. Ghidoni got no answer on a second call to the cell phone on the bus, and she called the Agawam Police Department to report

her daughter missing at 3:25 p.m.

After a series of frantic phone calls to the LPVEC and continuous contact with the police dispatcher, Mrs. Ghidoni said she learned at 4:45 p.m. that the bus driver had been reached by beeper and was bringing her daughter home.

According to the Ghidonis, a frightened and tearful Dominique was returned home around five o'clock. "We could tell she'd been crying and the bus driver said she was crying and calling for her mommy when he found her on the bus," Mrs. Ghidoni said.

Assured by the LPVEC that the driver would not be returning to the route, Mrs. Ghidoni said she was shocked when the driver showed up on Monday morning to drive Dominique to school and that her daughter was too afraid to get on the bus. Later that day, Mrs. Ghidoni was contacted by the special services department and told that the driver had been suspended for three days and reassigned to another route.

SEE CHILD ON BUS - Page 2...

CHILD ON BUS - from Page 1...

In the week since the incident occurred, Mrs. Ghidoni has been driving her daughter back and forth to school. "She won't get on the bus and I definitely won't force her. She's so afraid and she wants to know what's going to happen to the driver. She's starting to talk more about it, telling me how she'd been crying for me. I have no idea how long she was awake before they found her on the bus."

Ghidoni blasted school officials for their handling of the incident and for distorting the facts about how long their daughter was missing. "They're sweeping this under the rug like it was no big deal because they don't want the truth to be known," Ghidoni said. "They're trying to say she was missing for 45 minutes when it was more like two hours and that she was asleep when she was screaming and crying for her mother. For Dominique to be lost on a small minivan is unbelievable."

Police Sergeant Steven Draghetti said they received the call from the parents at 3:38 p.m. and a cruiser was sent to Granger School, where the officer was unable to determine if the child had gotten on the bus because the school personnel had gone home by then. Police cars were also sent to the family's neighborhood to begin an area search and to determine if Dominique had gotten on the wrong bus with friends.

When the police discovered that the driver of Dominique's bus was allowed to park the bus at his Springfield home at the end of the day, Draghetti said two detectives were dispatched to Springfield to search for the missing child. The detectives were recalled when the police were notified that the child had been found and was enroute home at 4:23 p.m. Draghetti said the parents were notified immediately and that the dispatcher had been in constant contact with the family throughout the incident.

***Our deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00
noon — AAN!!!***

* * *

Phone Numbers Of Elected Officials

1999 City Council Members

Donald M. Rheault, President
536 Mill Street
Feeding Hills
786-4043

Robert A. Magovern, Vice-President
144 Birch Hill Road
Agawam
789-0171

George Bitzas
33 Fernwood Drive
Agawam
789-1464

Edward A. Caba
198 Walnut Street
Agawam
786-2479

Gary F. Geiger
33 Zachary Lane
Agawam
789-6756

Gina M. Letellier
150 Maple Street
Agawam
786-4723

John J. Negrucci
35 Hayes Avenue
Feeding Hills
789-2887

Dennis J. Perry
466 North West Street
Feeding Hills
786-1238

Jill P. Simpson
24 Pleasant Valley Road
Feeding Hills
786-0053

Nancy E. Thompson
19A Mansion Woods Drive
Agawam
786-0586

Robert M. Young
216 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills
786-8995

1999 School Committee Members

Christopher C. Johnson, Chairman
88 Morningside Circle
Feeding Hills
786-6297

Susan Pettazzoni, Vice-Chairwoman
116 Granger Drive
Feeding Hills
786-9699

Teresa Kozloski, Secretary
102 Meadow Street
Agawam
786-6934

Roberta Doering
915 River Road
Agawam
786-2323

Linda Galarneau
24 Sycamore Terrace
Agawam
789-0245

Louis Massoia, Jr.
6 Sequoia Drive
Feeding Hills
786-5785

Rosemary Sandlin
90 Granger Drive
Feeding Hills
786-3256

SCOTT M. HIBBERT

Attorney at Law

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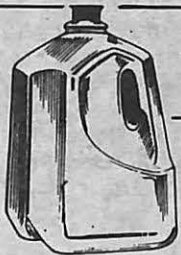
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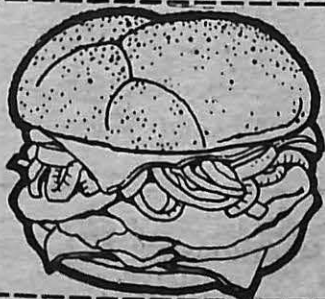
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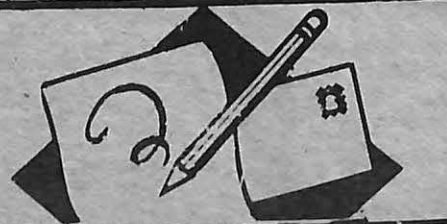
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Letters To The Editor

Bathroom Situation At AHS Needs Adult Intervention

To The Editor:

This letter is being written on behalf of my daughter, who is a junior at the High School. It has come to my attention that the girls' bathrooms are unsanitary. The following is a list of the major complaints:

1. The floor, toilets, and behind the seat are littered with soiled sanitary napkins. A definite hygiene and health hazard.
2. The floors around the toilet are always wet. Is it water or something else?
3. They are lacking in toilet paper. Many times there isn't a piece of toilet paper to be found anywhere in that bathroom. Again, it is a hygiene and health hazard.
4. They do not have soap available for hand-washing. A definite health and hygiene problem.
5. Smoke-filled rooms. This is a definite health hazard to the people who choose not to smoke.

My recommendations:

1. In each bathroom there should be a monitor. She could have a handle on the filth and smoke that is found in these bathrooms. If a student leaves a mess, the monitor could teach the student respect for school property.
2. Large receptacles placed in each stall for the disposal of sanitary products. A meeting should be held with all the girls and the issue of proper disposal of these products should be addressed. No student or janitor should have to deal with this lack of responsibility.
3. Extra rolls of toilet paper should be accessible to the students.
4. Soap should be available to the students.
5. All bathrooms should be open for students. Not only two or three for the entire girl population. Why did we build a new wing including bathrooms and then keep them locked?

It is time for Mr. Ameruso to stop treating these students as second-class people. It is time to try and solve these problems by whatever means is necessary. The students have a right to a healthy and safe environment while in school. We have placed Mr. Ameruso in the position of providing for our students. I understand from teachers and students that Mr. Zabielski has been working hard to solve this problem, but he is meeting with resistance from Mr. Ameruso and the School Committee.

I also want to say a word to the School Committee for their disrespect toward the students who presented themselves at recent School Committee meetings. These students have gone through the proper channels seeking help to the problem. They deserve to be heard. They have to live with this problem day in and day out. It is not fair to judge or punish the whole group for a few irresponsible people. To expect peers to solve the problem is expecting too much from them. This situation needs adult intervention.

Sincerely,
Alma Benton
Feeding Hills

Pettazzoni To Begin New Program For The Community

To The Editor:

To The Agawam Community:

On February 23, 1999, I will be starting a new program for the members of our community. This program will allow a form of communication that I feel has been needed for a time.

One hour before each School Committee meeting, at 6:00 p.m., I will be available in the cafeteria of the Middle School for face-to-face communication. This is not a new idea. Our legislators hold social hours. However, I believe that this form of communication will enhance our schools and bring new knowledge to everyone that participates.

I am excited about this opportunity and look forward to exchanging ideas, listening, and interacting with our community, one-to-one.

P.S. The name of this program, as you can guess, is 1-2-1.

Thank you,
Susan Pettazzoni

Vice Chairperson, Agawam School Committee

Best local news...

In Praise Of Workshop Held At Granger Elementary School

To The Editor:

It took us 12 weeks with Principal Phyllis Lewis and Counselor Larry Harbeson at Granger School to better see the world through our children's eyes.

It is amazing to realize the different perspective of the world our children have versus when we grew up. Did you ever say, "I would never have spoken to my parents like that?"

This parenting workshop took us through all those unanswered questions. We were able to share our hopes, our fears, and concerns about child-raising in the '90's.

If you ever get the chance to attend this workshop, please take advantage. Thank you, Phyllis and Larry for understanding our children and helping us in positive parenting techniques.

Thank you for giving up your time to coach us after helping coach our children all day!!!

Peg Stearley, Katie Kopyscinski
Ruth A. Roux, Pam Daglio
Marlene Lovely, Gary Guidetti

Berkshire Power Has Now Broken Another Promise

To The Editor:

Quote from Berkshire Power publication to the community: "The project will be located on 40 acres of industrial zoned land. However, the facility will only utilize about 10 acres. The remaining area will be used as buffer, with portions of the existing open area made available for community uses such as sports fields, playgrounds, or a picnic grove."

Recently, at a Board of Appeals hearing, it was confirmed that Berkshire Power has agreed in writing to deed to WMECO, 5 ACRES of this "buffer" to construct their electrical "Switch Gear," which will dwarf the heights of all the structures in the Industrial Park except for Berkshire Power's 125-ft smoke stack - thus making an already unpleasant site even more hideous. When will it end?

Another broken promise - thank you, Berkshire Power, for being such a "good neighbor." Better start making those gifts to our community a little more generous. Money and power can blind a lot of people.

Oh, I forgot. You already know that!!

Mike DelNegro
Agawam

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 1, 1999 at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of ten registered voters for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, by adding a provision relative to delaying the demolition of historically significant buildings. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: February 18, 1999

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas

Veterans Agent — Agawam Town Hall
786-0400, Ext. 236/237

VA's Toll-Free Medical Hotline

The following article appeared in this month's issue of "What Every Veteran Should Know" and should be of interest to most veterans:

"The VA's Veterans' Health Administration has established a toll-free hotline — 1-877-222-8387 — for callers with questions about new eligibility guidelines which expand medical benefits to millions of former military personnel.

"Under eligibility changes effective in October 1998, virtually all veterans are eligible for outpatient care, prescription medicines, and a full range of medical benefits. Such programs previously were guaranteed only to low-income veterans or those with 50 percent or greater service-connected disabilities.

"The toll-free number is answered from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Counselors can send enrollment packages to veterans, provide locations and phone numbers of hundreds of new VA clinics, and transfer callers directly to them, where veterans can then enroll."

This week, we are continuing with the names of Agawam Vietnam veterans whose Home of Record is Agawam and who will be included on our Honor Roll to be built on Veterans' Green on Main Street. This list includes Agawam veterans who served on active duty during a war-time era and whose last names begin with the letter "M."

If you have any questions regarding the Honor Roll, please call our office at the number listed above.

AGAWAM VIETNAM VETERANS — "M"

Wayne K. Macey, Francis E. Mackin, Jr., Michael L. Maheu, Kenneth A. Maillett, Werner Maiwald, Aldo A. Mancini, Joseph P. Mancini, Richard J. Mandeville, Albert J. Mandrioli, Jr., Thomas S. Manville, Edward E. Marion, John A. Marion, William A. Martel, Francis G. Martin, Jr., Francis J. Martin, David J. Mastroianni, Russell J. Mattoon, Eric J. Matthews, Edward A. Maybury, Peter J. Maynard, Robert R. Maynard, Gary S. Mayo.

Hugh A. McBride, Charles C. McCobb, Jr., James P. McCollum*, Dennis C. McGrevey, Martin J. McMahon, Earl H. McNamee, Henry B. Meade, Michael A. Meade*, Stephen T. Meade, Richard J. Meczywor, Gary A. Melbourne, Gary Melloni, Alphonse A. Mercadante, Bernd Merceri, Leo P. Mercier, Michael D. Meredith, Russell A. Merwin, Elroy A. Messer, Paul B. Meunier, Donald F. Meunier.

James A. Michalak, Reynard F. Milici, Paul A. Miller, Richard W. Mills, Robert F. Mills, Michael J. Mischia, Charles C. Mitchell, James E. Mitchell, James L. Moccio, Kenneth W. Moccio, Leo D. Moccio, Louis A. Moccio, Michael W. Monahan, William D. Montagna, Nield J. Montgomery, Frank J. Morassi, David V. Moreno, Lee A. Morin, Wayne L. Morris, Francis T. Morris, Jr., William E. Morrissey, Frank D. Moruzzi, John J. Moynahan*, William J. Mrosz, Steven D. Murawski, Barbara G. Murphy, Leo J. Mutti, Peter Mutti, Paul R. Myers, Carl W. Myllymaki*.

(* Died while in service.)

Ruth C. Bitzas' "Veterans' Corner" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News...



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano Some Tips On Choosing And Using A Fire Extinguisher

Most fires start small, and it is at this stage that if a fire extinguisher is handy, it could put out the fire or keep it from spreading. You should only attempt to fight a fire with a fire extinguisher when it is small and in its early stage.

If your exit could potentially be blocked by fire, don't attempt to fight the fire. Instead, get out of the building.

The Agawam Fire Department provides the following hints on purchasing and using a fire extinguisher:

- Most fire extinguishers operate this way:
 1. Pull the locking pin.
 2. Aim at the base of the flames.
 3. Squeeze the handle.
 4. Sweep back and forth over the burning area.
 - The contents of most extinguishers last less than 30 to 60 seconds. Aim carefully at the base of the flame.
 - Fire extinguishers are meant to fight only small fires (no bigger around than a trash can). Fighting too large a fire can be dangerous.
 - Whenever a fire occurs, get everyone out first and call the Agawam Fire Department at 911. Then use your extinguisher if the fire is still small enough.
 - All fire extinguishers are not alike. They are marked with the letter(s) indicating the type of fire they can put out:
 - "A" — Ordinary fuels such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and plastics.
 - "B" — Flammable liquids like gasoline, kerosene, oil, paint, and kitchen grease.
 - "C" — Electricity.
 - "D" — Metals.
 - Purchase a multi-purpose extinguisher with a "BC" or "ABC" label for typical home use.
 - Install extinguishers.
 - Check the pressure gauge on your extinguisher periodically to see if it needs recharging. Look in the phone book for professionals to fill and recharge extinguishers.
 - Always refill or replace a used extinguisher immediately. Never put it back empty. An empty extinguisher is dangerous for someone else to use.
- For further information, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

A New Safety Tool...

Agawam Police Cars Now Equipped With Water Rescue Bags

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Police cars in town have recently been equipped with a new safety tool to help prevent the tragedy of death by drowning for victims caught unaware by thin or melting ice on local ponds, rivers, and irrigation ponds.

Water rescue bags have been added to the Agawam Police Department's arsenal of safety equipment in addition to the flares, first aid kits, and fire extinguishers carried as standard safety gear in police patrol cars, according to Agawam Police Safety Officer (Sergeant) Steven Draghetti.

Purchased for the town's nine marked patrol vehicles at a cost of \$45 each, the water rescue bags consist of 70 feet of tensile nylon cord attached to a nylon bag with a small flotation donut designed to keep the bag from sinking. The rescue device would serve as a lifeline to victims stranded far from shore in a fall through thin ice or in any water-related accident, according to Draghetti.

Major Role In Water Rescues

"The Fire Department has the major role in water rescues, but we can generally get a cruiser to the scene a minute or two before the Fire Department can get there. In the past, we would have no way of reaching someone far from shore," Draghetti said. "With the water rescue bags, we would be able to deploy a lifeline to someone who has fallen through the ice or is trapped on melting ice within 70 feet of the shore."

As spring approaches and the ice covering local ponds and rivers begins to soften, the danger of fall-through accidents increases, especially for children who have become used to going out on the ice, Draghetti said.

"At this time of year, the ice is pretty thick, but once we get past February, the weather starts to warm up. The problems start in mid-March when the ice is getting softer, but the kids are still used to going out on the ice," Draghetti said.

The problem can be compounded by currents flowing under the surface of a pond or river, causing treacherous soft spots in the ice that may not be visible to someone walking on the surface.



OFFICER DONALD GALLERANI (left) and Safety Officer (Sergeant) Steven Draghetti with one of the new water rescue bags that are now part of the standard equipment in Agawam Police Department patrol cars. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Although there have been no fatal falls through the ice in Agawam in recent memory, the danger exists in every patrol district because every patrol area contains a pond or abuts the Westfield or Connecticut Rivers, Draghetti said.

Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you - AAN!!!

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Municipal Golf Course To Get 2nd Floor Banquet Room At Clubhouse Facility

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

With sales up in all four major areas of operation, the Agawam Municipal Golf Course can afford to pay off the final installment on its start-up capital loan and complete the renovations to the second story clubhouse banquet facility.

At Monday night's meeting, Town Council unanimously approved spending transfers totaling \$170,000 from the Golf Course Surplus Avenue Fund to the town Stabilization Fund (\$50,000) and to the Golf Course Start-Up Capital Account (\$120,000), as requested by Course Manager Ronald Dunn and approved by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

When the town first purchased the former Agawam Country Club, the golf course enterprise fund borrowed \$150,000 from the Stabilization Fund to be used as start-up capital for the operation of the course. From the revenue surplus funds, the golf course has been paying back the interest-free loan in increments of \$50,000 in 1995 and in 1998. With the third and final payment approved by the council, the loan has been paid in full.

In approving the transfer of \$120,000 in surplus revenue to the Capital Fund, the council paved the way for the completion of the upstairs banquet facility at the clubhouse as well as the purchase of kitchen equipment and seating.

"With improved conditions at the golf course, there is additional demand for golf-related banquet functions," Johnson said. "In addition, the completion of the second floor will relieve overcrowding presently experienced in the first-floor snack bar area."

The estimated construction cost of renovating the upstairs banquet facility is \$75,000, and the cost of equipment and furniture is estimated at \$45,000. In the breakdown of construction costs,

the heating and air conditioning units account is the largest expense (\$15,000), followed by completion of deck screening (\$14,200); interior trim, doors, insulation, and sheetrock (\$14,000); labor (\$10,000); electrical wiring and light fixtures (\$8,200); plumbing (\$7,500); carpeting (\$3,600); and exterior gutters (\$2,500).

According to the financial documentation prepared by the Mayor in support of the spending requests, the golf course brought in just over \$92,000 in surplus revenue for the fiscal year ending in June of 1998. A slight increase in the total number of rounds of golf played and a slight fee increase account for the increase in profits in the four major areas of golf, cart rentals, pro shop sales, and food and beverage sales.

Expenses At The Course Went Up...

Overall, expenses at the course went up by \$26,765.42. Among the major differences in expenses:

- Personnel costs went up \$25,737.22 as the result of negotiated cost of living increase and fluctuations in seasonal employees.
- Equipment Repair/Maintenance went up \$4,296.23 due to major outside cart repair and increased repair of maintenance and irrigation equipment.
- Equipment rental fell by \$23,185.93 as the result of making the final lease purchase payment on carts.
- Water purchase went up \$2,579.89 because dry weather forced an increase in irrigation.
- Materials and Equipment rose by \$5,709.34 due to the purchase of extra loam, seed, and sod for the construction of tee boxes.
- Property and Liability Insurance went up \$8,450.11 from the delayed charge off of health, dental, and life insurance for golf course

employees.

Over the last five years, the course has shown a revenue surplus each year, totaling just over a half-million dollars. Before the council approved the two transfers, the course had \$348,543.30 in available surplus revenue. In the wake of the council vote, the course will have a net available revenue surplus of \$178,543.30, which is sufficient to serve as a reserve against future unforeseen fluctuations in golf course revenue, according to Johnson.

"Our goal is to have a cushion equal to the revenue generated at the course in a good month so that we won't have to go to the general fund if we have a bad year," Johnson said.

Permanent Revenue Stream...

Although the course is still about five years away from becoming a money-maker for the town, Johnson said he plans to propose a local ordinance dedicating surplus revenue at the golf course as a permanent revenue stream to support the park and recreation department rather than merely adding the future surplus revenue to the general fund.

"My hope is that the golf course will be a major funding source for our parks and recreation department," Johnson said. "The revenue surplus would get lost in the general fund. I want people to be able to see a direct benefit in owning the golf course."

Before the golf course begins to show a profit beyond the cost of operation and maintenance, the course still needs more investment, including cart paths, expanding parking, and improving playability on some holes, to bring it up to the standard for a quality municipal course, Johnson said.

More "Improper" Construction Work At Riverside...

Conservation Commission Patience Wearing Thin

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For the third time since Premier Parks bought out the Carroll family three years ago, Riverside Park representatives admitted construction work was improperly underway within a wetlands resource area under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

State law prohibits developers from working within the protected buffer zone of a wetlands unless they have obtained permission from the Department of Environmental Protection or an order of conditions from the local Conservation Commission. Whenever work is planned within the buffer zone, developers are required to file a notice of intent with the Conservation Commission.

After holding a public hearing, the commissioners issue an order of conditions to detail the measures that must be taken to protect the wetlands and to restore any areas that may have been disturbed when the work is completed.

At last Thursday's meeting, a representative of the environmental consulting firm, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., said the company did not know an order of conditions was necessary because the work was being done in the footprint of a redevelopment area.

Referring to past instances when Riverside violated an order of conditions while building a bridge over a brook or failed to obtain an order of conditions before clearing vegetation at the

grove, commission member Gina Rossi-Linderme vowed to issue a cease and desist order for the slightest offense in the future.

Ms. Rossi-Linderme blasted Riverside for coming to the commission in the past after work was well underway and then claiming not to have been aware of the commission's jurisdiction because the new management was unfamiliar with state laws. Furthermore, Ms. Rossi-Linderme questioned why the local consultants hired by Riverside were unaware of state law.

"You guys do that all the time and you know there are wetlands in the area," Ms. Rossi-Linderme said.

The project involved taking down three water slides that pre-dated Premier Parks' acquisition of the property and installing a new high capacity ride to replace an attraction that did not meet company safety standards.

Commission Chairman Henry Kozloski and commissioner Frederick Harpin inspected the site on February 6th after receiving two complaints. They found the work was underway within the buffer zone of a small stream. Kozloski urged the commission to approve an order of conditions so that the work could continue while Riverside files a notice of intent.

Mistakes Not To Be Repeated

After a lengthy conversation, Harpin said he was convinced that new General Manager

Timothy Black was working to correct the problem and that the same mistakes would not be repeated in the future.

Kozloski said the job of the commission is to protect the wetlands, not to delay or prevent development. "They're going to come in with a notice of intent and there will be enhancements to the area, such as grass instead of pavement near the new ride," Kozloski said.

Riverside will make a presentation of all their planned construction activities for this season at the park, including improvements to the parking lots, at the next Conservation Commission meeting. Before the next meeting, Kozloski said the commissioners should visit the park for a walk through the entire property to familiarize new members with the locations of all the wetlands under their jurisdiction.

Riverside Director of Security Jason Freeman assured the panel that Black would attend the next meeting and make a presentation of all the park's expansion plans.

"Your concerns are very duly noted," Freeman assured the commissioners.

The commission voted unanimously to issue an order of conditions that will allow the work to continue, even though they could have ordered the construction halted until Riverside completes the notification process.

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The Beginning Of A Lengthy Process... Town Takes First Steps In Fixing 10 Year-Old Snafu Over Park Land

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last week, the Conservation Commission moved the town one step farther down the road toward righting a 10 year-old misuse of land at Perry Lane Park by approving the release of nearly three acres of park land for use as nursery schools.

In a unanimous vote, the commissioners took the first local step in a lengthy process that will eventually lead to a special act of the state legislature for the approval of the conversion of 2.78 acres of land from park purposes to general municipal purposes, as well as the restoration of Agawam's eligibility for grant funding under the state's Urban Self-Help Program.

The next step in the process will be a public hearing and a Town Council vote to release the land. The town will then petition the state legislature for legislation approving the conversion of the park land.

Town Planner Deborah S. Dachos said the town is planning to swap the 14-acre Hall property adjacent to Perry Lane Park for 2.78 acres of land at the park (which represents the land currently being used by the town-sponsored Perry Lane Nursery School and the School Department's Early Childhood Center [ECC] plus additional land for future expansion).

Deed Restriction

Originally purchased with an Urban Self-Help grant in 1989, Perry Lane Park carries a deed restriction imposed by the state requiring that the property is used for park, recreation, or conservation purposes only.

However, the state was unaware that the Perry Lane Nursery School was already in existence on the property when the grant was approved for the town to purchase the park from the YMCA. The problem was compounded in 1993 when a 7,000 square-foot building was erected as a temporary home for the Early Childhood Programs (with the intention of using the building for recreation purposes) after the completion of school expansion projects at the four elementary schools created space for the pre-school program.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said the town was notified in 1997 that it was in non-compliance after the property was inspected by the Division of Conservation Services.

"When the School Committee made the decision not to relocate the Early Childhood classes to the elementary schools, we knew we were in violation. But, the town has been in violation since the town acquired the property," Johnson said.

The town is proposing to make up for the loss of the 2.78 acres by substituting the Hall property, which consists of 14 acres of open meadows, woodland, a stream, and wetlands. The property will be used for outdoor education programs, expansion of the Perry Lane parking lot, and the preservation of the natural resources on the property.

Appraisal Process The Next Step

"The next step is the appraisal process, so that the state can be satisfied that the property we're substituting is of equal value to the converted parkland," Johnson said. "After the appraisal is finished, I'll proceed to ask Town Council to file for special legislation for the conversion. Hopefully, the council will agree and we'll receive the legislature's approval. Or, we could tear down the Early Childhood Center and the nursery school in order to be in compliance."

In August 1996, the town received a letter from Joel A. Lerner, director of the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, stating, "The building (ECC) constitutes a park conversion and a breach of our Urban Self-Help contract agreement which the city signed when it accepted state money for the purchase of the property. The conversion is also contrary to state constitutional prohibitions against alienation of 'parklands' to other purposes."

Lerner said the problem could be solved by removing the building or by replacing the parkland with other land of equal value, and that his office would be reluctant to grant the town any money for any other projects until the problem at Perry Lane Park is corrected.

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Agawam Republican Comm. To Meet On Wed., February 24th

The Agawam Republican City Committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Faolin Peirce Community Room (east entrance of the Police Station on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills).

The agenda will include nominations for officers for the coming year, and an important business meeting.

Robert Danie, committee chairman, encourages all present committee members to attend this meeting.

Anyone who is interested in becoming an associate member of the Agawam Republican Town Committee is also invited to attend this meeting.

— Best local news —

State Rep. Keenan Schedules Office Hours In Agawam

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has scheduled office hours at the Agawam Senior Center on Wednesday, February 24th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and welcomes all constituents to attend to convey their comments and concerns on issues facing the district and the state.

Rep. Keenan is also available to speak and meet with constituents at his district office at 342 Springfield Street in Agawam, (413) 786-4545.

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Douglas H. Amos

Douglas H. Amos of Agawam died recently in a local nursing home. He was a security guard for Glen Western Security in Chicopee and had been a truck driver for area furniture companies.

Born in Ludlow, he spent most of his life in the Springfield area. He was a World War II Army veteran and a former member of the South Congregational Church.

He leaves his wife, Priscella Amos; a son, Douglas H. Jr. of Springfield; three daughters, Sandy Crawford of West Springfield, Susan Bernard of Florida, and Linda Scagliarini of Agawam; a sister, Dorothy Plant of Ludlow; eight grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral will be private. Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home is in charge. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01761-4680.

Angelo Bonomi

Angelo Bonomi, 82, of 49 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield. He owned and operated the Twin Brook Dairy Farm with his brother until 1969.

He then worked at American Machinery Co. of Chicopee. He retired from Zielinski Brothers in 1986. Born in Carroll, Pennsylvania, he lived here since 1922. He was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua Church, a member of the Dante Club in West Springfield, and the Sunset Bowling and Golf Leagues here and a past member of the 4-H Club.

He leaves his wife, the former Alba Dorigo; two daughters, Loretta Barowsky of Longmeadow and Roberta Burnett of Lynn Haven, Florida; six grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 124, West Springfield, MA 01090, or the Agawam Ambulance Fund, 800 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001.

Stanley R. Cyboron

Stanley R. Cyboron, 88, formerly of Kailua, Hawaii, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. He was a model maker at the Springfield Armory for 25 years and was one of the developers of the Garand M-1 infantry rifle.

He retired in 1966. Born and schooled in Chicopee, he was an Army veteran of World War II. He was attached to Battery B of the 13th Field Artillery Regiment at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii.

He won a number of awards in track and field and played on the Army baseball team. He was a former altar boy at the Basilica of St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, in Chicopee and a former member of the Springfield Armory Association.

He was a director of the Polish National Home Association in Chicopee.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, the former Clara Wudyka of Agawam; two sons, Richard of Suffield and Robert of Kailua; a brother, Walter of Chicopee; four grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral and burial was private. Starzyk Funeral Home, Inc. of Chicopee was in charge.

Mary Picard Gaudreau

Mary (Lafskina) Picard Gaudreau, 82, of 125 Florida Drive, Agawam, died recently at a local nursing home.

She was a cashier for the Ryan Drug Store for 15 years, retiring in 1978.

She owned the former Ed's Diner in West Springfield, with her first husband, for many years.

Born in Palmer, she lived in Agawam for the past 46 years.

Her first husband, Louis J. Picard, Sr., died in 1974, and her second husband, Ulysses Gaudreau, died in 1998.

She leaves a son, Louis J. Picard, Jr. of Belcher-town; two daughters, Barbara P. Slate of Southwick and Betty A. Stebbins of Springfield; a stepson, Richard Gaudreau of Chicopee; four sisters, Bernice Hecment of Palmer, Rose Martowski of Ware, Clara Picard of the Three Rivers section of Palmer, and Julia Alberquerque of Ludlow; 19 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Ratell Funeral Home and in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Springfield, with burial in St. Aloysius Cemetery in Indian Orchard.

Carolann Knowlton

Carolann (Charest) Knowlton, 32, of 33 Anthony Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was a bus monitor for the Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative and previously in West Springfield. She also was a general manager at the Stop & Shop Supermarket in Feeding Hills.

Born in Springfield, she lived in West Springfield and Agawam for many years.

She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills and a member of Local 1459 of the United Food & Commercial Workers Union.

She leaves her husband, Brian R. Knowlton; a

son, Michael R., and two daughters, Tina L. Charest and Sarah M. Knowlton, all at home; her father, George Charest of Agawam; two sisters, Christina Decoteau of Agawam and Corena Stefaniak of Chicopee; and her grandfather, Alphee Charest of Agawam.

The funeral was private, and Agawam Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia Society of America, Inc. 180 Rustcraft Road, Dedham, MA 02026; the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104; or the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

William E. Lancto

William E. "Yellow Wheels" Lancto, 75, of 23 Hastings Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at home.

He was a long-distance truck driver for the former Longmeadow Trucking Co. He retired in 1981 from Union Transit.

He worked previously for Barnack Roofing and Lynch Lumber in West Springfield.

Born in Newark, New Jersey, he lived in the Springfield area before moving to Feeding Hills in the 1930's.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

He leaves two sons, William E. Jr. of Pittsfield and Joseph R. D'Angeles of Springfield; a daughter, Jeannette Cooney of Springfield; a brother, Eric King of Nakomis, Florida; a nephew, Richard Fulvi of West Springfield, whom he raised; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his friends, Robert and June Menard of Feeding Hills, with whom he lived for 35 years.

The funeral was held at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Church, with burial in Agawam Veterans' Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Janet Billings

Janet Billings, 53, of Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was a long-time employee of Casual Corner and a part-time employee of Putnam's Card and Gift Shop, both in Enfield.

Born in Worcester, she was schooled in Shrewsbury and lived in Agawam for 20 years.

She leaves a daughter, Karen Barrows of Granby, Connecticut; her mother, Helen (Lock) Billings of Agawam; a brother, Frank E. Billings of Morgan City, Louisiana; and a grandson.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, with a private burial.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 9...

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OBITUARIES - from Page 8...

Barbara G. Larkin

Barbara G. Larkin, 73, of 91 Plantation Drive, Agawam, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was an office manager for the former E.W. Larkin Construction Co., Springfield, for many years.

Born in Springfield, she graduated from Cathedral High School in 1943 and Our Lady of the Elms College in Chicopee in 1947.

She was a communicant of St. Catherine of Siena Church, Springfield. She was the organist for many years at St. Michael's Cathedral, Holy Name Church, and Sacred Heart Church, all in Springfield.

She leaves a brother, Dr. Philip C. Larkin of White Plains, New York, and two sisters, Mary L. Mayotte of Bradenton, Florida, and Ann L. Ryan of Springfield.

The funeral was held at the church, and burial was in St. Michael's Cemetery. Hafey Springfield Chapels was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Massachusetts Citizens for Life, P.O. Box 96, Ludlow, MA 01056.

Elsa A. Moretti

Elsa A. (Forni) Moretti, 93, of Agawam and Portsmouth, Rhode Island, died recently at Newport Hospital, Newport, Rhode Island.

She and her husband, Robert, owned the former Federal Hill Club from 1936 to 1978.

An accomplished pianist, she also taught piano lessons.

Born in West Springfield, she lived in Agawam most of her life and in Portsmouth for the last four years.

She was a graduate of the College of St. Dorothea, Bologna, Italy, and a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, Agawam, and St. Barnabas Church of Portsmouth.

Her husband, Robert "Nino" Moretti, predeceased her.

She leaves a son, Nino of West Simsbury, Connecticut; a daughter, Mona Fravel of Portsmouth; and a sister, Edith Corbin of Springfield.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and in the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 53 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

June B. Sniffin

June B. (Clark) Sniffin, 75, of 59 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, died recently at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She was an office clerk at MassMutual in Springfield for 20 years. She retired in 1986.

Born in New Rochelle, New York, she lived in Feeding Hills for 44 years and in Springfield for seven years before returning to Feeding Hills.

She served in the Navy during World War II. She was a member of the Sounds of Music Club in West Springfield.

She leaves her husband, Harold W. Sniffin; a daughter, Sandra Axler of East Longmeadow; two stepdaughters, Kathleen Tuthill of Reston, Virginia, and Patricia Avery of Rocky Mountain, North Carolina; a brother, Gerry of Delmar, New York; and a granddaughter.

A graveside service was held at Sylvan Cemetery in Wurtsboro, New York, and Hafey Springfield Chapels was in charge of the local arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Memorial and Honor Program, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105-9956.

Olive P. Lindo

Olive P. (Blackwood) Lindo, 79, of 61 Cooper Street, Agawam, and formerly of Middlesex Street, Springfield, died recently at a local nursing home.

She was a civil service clerk in England.

Born in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, she spent most of her life in England before moving to Springfield six years ago.

She leaves three brothers, Vincent Blackwood, Gladston Blackwood, and Claude Blackwood, all of Springfield; three sisters, Cynthia Mitchel, Joyce Blackwood, and Kathleen Wallace, all of Springfield; and her godson, Robert A. Hickson of New York.

The funeral was held at Dickinson-Streeter Funeral Home of Springfield, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Melconian Refiles Bill On Genetic Test Results

Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to announce that she has refiled legislation to protect the privacy of an individual's genetic test results and prevent discrimination on that basis in employment, health, and life insurance.

The bill was engrossed in the Senate last session and Melconian hopes that this year Massachusetts can join the majority of other states that have enacted genetic privacy protections.

"No one should have to balance the benefit of receiving a potentially lifesaving test with the fear of discrimination from his or her employer or insurance provider," Melconian said.

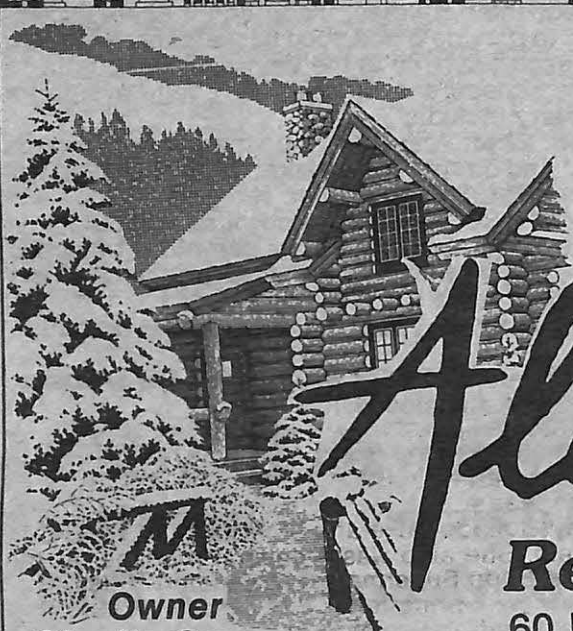
The need to protect the results of these tests becomes more urgent every day. As scientists like those on the Human Genome Project work to map the human genetic code, they will start to isolate genes that cause specific diseases. An early example is the discovery that many Ashkenazic Jewish women are born with the BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 genetic mutation that causes breast

cancer. If states do not enact these protections, eventually individuals may be denied insurance or employment simply because they have the potential to develop an illness.

The legislation would require the informed, written consent of an individual before disclosing the results of a genetic test. Discrimination because of a genetic test result would be banned in not only employment and insurance, but also in housing, membership in labor organizations, and when an individual borrows money.

The Massachusetts Commission on Discrimination would have the power to investigate all complaints. Exemptions to the bill's protections have been crafted for legitimate research and law enforcement purposes.

"This bill is a natural extension of anti-discrimination law," said Melconian. "We all know it is wrong to discriminate against someone simply because they were born a certain race or nationality. It is just as wrong to discriminate against someone because they were born with certain genes."



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Elizabeth Ellen Regish Becomes Bride Of Carlton S. Smith, Jr.

Elizabeth Ellen Regish and Carlton Spencer Smith, Jr. were united in marriage on October 12, 1998 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

The bride is the daughter of Barbara M. and Robert J. Regish of Agawam and is a 1988 graduate of Agawam High School. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1992 from Mount Holyoke College with a B.A., and in 1993 received her M.A. from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where she graduated with Distinction. She is Webmaster at CEO Express in Boston.

The bridegroom, the son of Diana and Carlton Smith of Fall River, Mass., is a 1986 graduate of Dunfee High School in Fall River. He received his B.A. from Harvard University in Cambridge, MA, graduated with Distinction from Georgetown University in 1993, where he received his M.A., and received his J.D. from Georgetown University Law School in 1998. He is an attorney with Choate, Hall, Stewart in Boston.

Serving the bride as maid of honor was Ms. Tisha Hooks (college friend) and matron of honor was Mrs. Sarah Young (college friend). Local honor attendants were Mrs. Gina Reilly and Ms. Anne Llewellyn. Serving as best man was John Stephan, college friend of the groom.

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Masonic Lodge Offers Monthly Breakfasts On Sunday Mornings

A Sunday "All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast" will be served on February 28th and the last Sunday of every month at the Masonic Lodge Building, 53 River St. (just off the Veterans' Bridge between Agawam and West Springfield), from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

The menu will include pancakes, eggs, sausage, home-fried potatoes, homemade biscuits, coffee, etc. The cost is \$4 per person and \$2.50 for children.

Elm-Belcher Lodge is conducting this event as part of their Masonic Awareness Program.

The program includes the Adopt-A-Highway clean-up program for Route 57 in Agawam, from the ramp off Route 75 west to the end of Route 57.

This program will again start on Earth Day in April and will continue through the summer months.

Some of the other special projects are CHIPS, a children's identification program to help parents protect their children, blood donor/Pheresis program to provide blood, food baskets for the needy, and escort service at the Veterans' Hospital.

The schedule of Elm-Belcher Lodge events for February include:

Feb. 22nd: A special appreciation and awards event and dinner. The speaker for this evening will be Rt. Wor. Sidney Weiner. His presentation will be on the Ronald McDonald House, a facility that offers affordable housing for parents with a child who is receiving special care at the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Feb. 28th: All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast as outlined.

More information is available on the web site: <http://www.masslodges.org>.

Agawam Bicycle Advisory Committee To Meet March 29th

An organizational meeting to form the Agawam Bicycle Advisory Committee will be held on March 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Room of the Agawam Police Station.

Agawam residents who have an interest in bicycling as transportation or recreation are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call 789-1620.



SANTINA MARIE GRAZIANO

Graziano Family Announces Birth Of Daughter, Santina M.

Gary and Suzanne Graziano are pleased to announce the birth of their fourth child, Santina Marie.

Santina was born on December 28, 1998 and weighed seven pounds, 15 ounces.

She was welcomed home by her sisters, Maria and Teresa, and her brother, Vincent.

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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, Feb. 22nd: French toast, sausages, homefries, fruit cup, muffin.

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd: French meat pies, mashed potatoes, green beans, rye bread, grapes.

Wednesday, Feb. 24th: Chicken pot pies, tossed salad, biscuit, pineapple.

Thursday, Feb. 25th: Beef Burgundy w/egg noodles, carrots, whole wheat bread, applesauce.

Friday, Feb. 26th: Tuna noodle casserole, tossed salad, rye bread, baked custard.

Menu subject to change without notice.

Catholic Women's Club Slates Annual Club Show & Dinner

The annual Club Show and Dinner of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will be held on March 9th in the Social Center of St. John the Evangelist Church on Main Street.

The March meeting will be dispensed with, the dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., and the show will be staged immediately after the dinner.

The cast for the show includes Dorothy Frenette, Marie LaChapel, Jackie Toussaint, Paula Raiche, Marty Jerry, Terry Longo, Pauline Pauquette, Angela Beaudry, Jane Trevenhan, Carol Pignatare, and Charlene Moretti, chairperson.

Piano accompaniment will be by Charles Maniscalchi and Lorraine Maniscalchi is dinner chairperson. Assisting Lorraine will be Peggy Altobelli, Theresa Barlow, Raymond Bean, Betty Bury, Bernice Consolini, Lucille Harpin, Eileen Lutat, Kay Muzzi, Rosalie Ross, Vola Sloboda, Estelle Veronessi, and Ginny Zerbata.

Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP Chapter Schedules Meeting For February 22nd

The Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP chapter meeting is slated for Monday, February 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The meetings are always open to new members. If you are a member of the national AARP, you may join the local chapter prior to any of the monthly meetings.

Following the meeting on February 22nd, there

will be an informative video titled "It Can Happen To Anyone," featuring actor Ed Asner. Following the video, Richard McKearn, director of detoxification and rehab services at Providence Hospital, will be on hand to speak on the use and abuse of alcohol as we get older.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 22nd!

Alyson E. Reid Joins U.S. Army Under Delayed Entry Program

Alyson E. Reid has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Framingham, Mass.

The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel, and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic military training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Reid, a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School, will report to Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Missouri for basic training on July 8, 1999.

She is the daughter of Lynda K. and Wayne A. Reid of 76 Horsham Place, Feeding Hills.

Agawam Women's Club Hold Next Mtg. On Monday, Feb. 22nd

The regular monthly meeting of the Agawam Women's Club will be held on Monday, Feb. 22nd at the Captain Leonard House at 7:30 p.m.

All women will be interested in the program, "Breast Cancer - Rays of Hope."

Mrs. Charla Kistner will read the invocation and refreshments will be served by Jean Goss and her committee.

Members are reminded to bring in any item they may have for the baskets, namely gourmet, kitchen, and bath, to be raffled at the upcoming Fashion Show on March 21st.

We welcome, as always, any lady to visit these meetings.

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Church News

News & Notes From Sacred Heart



FATHER RAPHAEL BONANNO, who will be presenting a Lenten Parish Mission at Sacred Heart Church in March.

Lenten Parish Mission To Be Conducted At Sacred Heart Church

Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills will be hosting a Lenten Parish Mission from March 13th to March 18th.

This mission will be conducted by Franciscan Friars Ministry of the Word. Father Raphael Bonanno, OFM, from Natick, Massachusetts, will be the presenter. Father Raphael has been involved with this Ministry since 1995.

He will be preaching at all the weekend Masses. On Sunday evening, there will be two sessions, one at 5:30 p.m. on Men's Spirituality and at 7:00 p.m. on Women's Spirituality.

On Monday afternoon at 5:00 p.m., there will be a special session for the high school youth (eighth to 12th grades) of the parish. Each morning from Monday to Thursday at 8:00 a.m., there will be Mass with a Homily by Father Raphael.

Each evening from Monday-Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Paraliturgical Service with two presentations. The mission will conclude with a Solemn Mass on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

The themes for this Mission are as follows:

Monday: "Love & Service as the Source of Life in a New Era"

Tuesday: "Letting Go of the Past Through Forgiveness"

Wednesday: "We Are Renewed and Made Whole Through the Healing Power of God"

Thursday: "Sent Forth by Christ to Proclaim Good News"

This parish mission is open to all, as well as parishioners. So come, bring your family and friends. Lent is a good time to stop for a while and reflect on where we are going in our faith life. This mission is a great way to do that.

Love - Healing - Forgiveness

Remember a time when you absolutely felt the presence of God in your life? Maybe a family crisis, or an experience of God's love?

We are looking for **some people** in our parish who might like to share that experience with others during the **Parish Mission**.

Presenters will be asked to speak **three to four minutes** from the altar focusing on a love, healing, or forgiveness event in their life.

If you are willing, please call the rectory (786-8200) to speak with Sr. Eileen or Father Tatro.

PARISH MISSION

Our Parish Lenten Mission will be held in the Church from March 13th-March 18th. The presenter is Franciscan Fr. Raphael Bonanno, OFM. Fr. Raphael will be preaching at all the weekend Masses.

On Sunday evening, there will be two sessions: one at 5:30 p.m. on **Men's Spirituality**, and one at 7:00 p.m. on **Women's Spirituality**.

On Monday at 5:00 p.m., there will be a special session for the high school youth (8th through 12th grade) of the parish. Each morning from Monday through Thursday at 8:00 a.m., a Mass will be celebrated with a homily by Fr. Raphael. Each evening, Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., a Paraliturgical Service will be held with two presentations. On Thursday evening, the Mission concludes with a Solemn Mass at 7:00 p.m.

There will be refreshments in the **Parish Center** following the **Monday and Thursday morning and evening services**. This Mission is open to those of other parishes as well as our parishioners. Come, bring your family and friends.

SUNDAY to SUNDAY

Our **Spiritual Video Program**, *Sunday to Sunday*, will continue with special programs during Lent on Tuesday mornings at Sacred Heart immediately after the 8:00 o'clock Mass and Thursday evenings at St. John's immediately after the 7:00 o'clock Mass.

This program provides background for the

Church Renewal Project At Ag. Congregational

Join us at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, as we paint the walls below Bryan Hall (church school classrooms) on February 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the 19th.

Youth and adults are welcome to help us out on this project. All supplies will be provided.

Following the project, pizza and soda will be provided for our helpful painters.

For more information on this project, call the Agawam Congregational Church office at 786-7111.

Best local news...

following Sunday's Scripture reading, together with some ideas on applying it to our daily lives. Each week there is a brief bit of information on some aspect of the Biblical times, plus a variety of Catholic hymns which might increase our personal repertoire. All were welcome at either program.

HELP-LINE

The **Help-Line** here at Sacred Heart has been established to temporarily help those who need a little extra assistance to enable them to remain independent despite aging, injury, or illness.

We have volunteers who will provide some respite for caregivers, prepare a meal, provide pet care, or do light housework for someone temporarily disabled.

We can provide home hair care, grocery shopping, sewing repairs, or minor home repairs for anyone needing that kind of help.

Volunteers will visit the lonely, read to those visually impaired, or provide security for family homes during wakes and funerals.

We can provide rides to weekend Masses, in emergency situations (mother with a sick child) or doctor visits for those unable to use the senior van.

More volunteers are needed, especially for transportation, but in any area where your shared time and talent can help those coping with special challenges.

To request assistance or volunteer to help, please call **Marianne (789-4008)**, **Joan (786-5863)**, or **Kathy (789-0183)**.

RUMMAGE SALE

There will be a **Rummage Sale** in the **Parish Center** in **April**. Dates for the sale and drop-offs will be announced soon. Please keep the sale in mind as you check your family's spring and summer clothing.

There will also be a **White Elephant Room** for all the "collectibles" you no longer want.

The sale is planned by "Member of Our Parish Family." Help is always needed!!!

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 25, 1999 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Suddekor Printer GMBH & Co. KG for a Request for Resource Area Delineation for property on Bowles Road.

Per Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Published: February 18, 1999



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MERCY AND REWARD

READ:
1 Timothy 1:12-17

This is a faithful saying... that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. —1 Timothy 1:15

When the great Puritan preacher Thomas Hooker (1586-1647) was on his deathbed, a friend tried to console him by saying, "Brother Hooker, you are going to receive your reward." "No, no!" he breathed. "I go to receive mercy!"

In sharp contrast, A. W. Tozer recalled the prayer of a man who had the idea that he could earn heaven as a reward for trying to keep the Ten Commandments. It went something like this: "Now, God, I admit I have not kept number 1 and number 3 and number 7 and number 9. But remember, Father, that I have kept all the others."

How foolish! This man failed to see that if he had broken one commandment, he was guilty of breaking them all (Jas. 2:10). His works were earning him condemnation, not salvation.

As the apostle Paul reviewed his 30-plus years of sacrificial service, he saw himself as the "chief" of sinners and totally dependent on God's mercy. Although he undoubtedly anticipated the rewards he would receive, he gloried only in the cross (Gal. 6:14). There Jesus paid the price for sin so that everyone who trusts in Him will receive mercy.

The wonder of God's mercy and grace! Someday I will "go to receive mercy." I hope you will too. —HVL

*'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me;
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me. —Westley*

**GRACE IS GETTING WHAT WE DO NOT DESERVE.
MERCY IS NOT RECEIVING WHAT WE DO DESERVE.**

*Church News - continued...***Pot Roast Dinner Held At St. David's Church...**

ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, St. David's Episcopal Church in Feeding Hills began the month on a particularly "tasty" note by hosting a pot roast dinner. IN LEFT PHOTO: Kitchen helpers Janet Kopyscinski and Philip Omasta. IN MIDDLE PHOTO: Little Gabriella Spear was anxious for her meal. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Kudos to Bill Souder for his meat-carving abilities. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

- Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon -

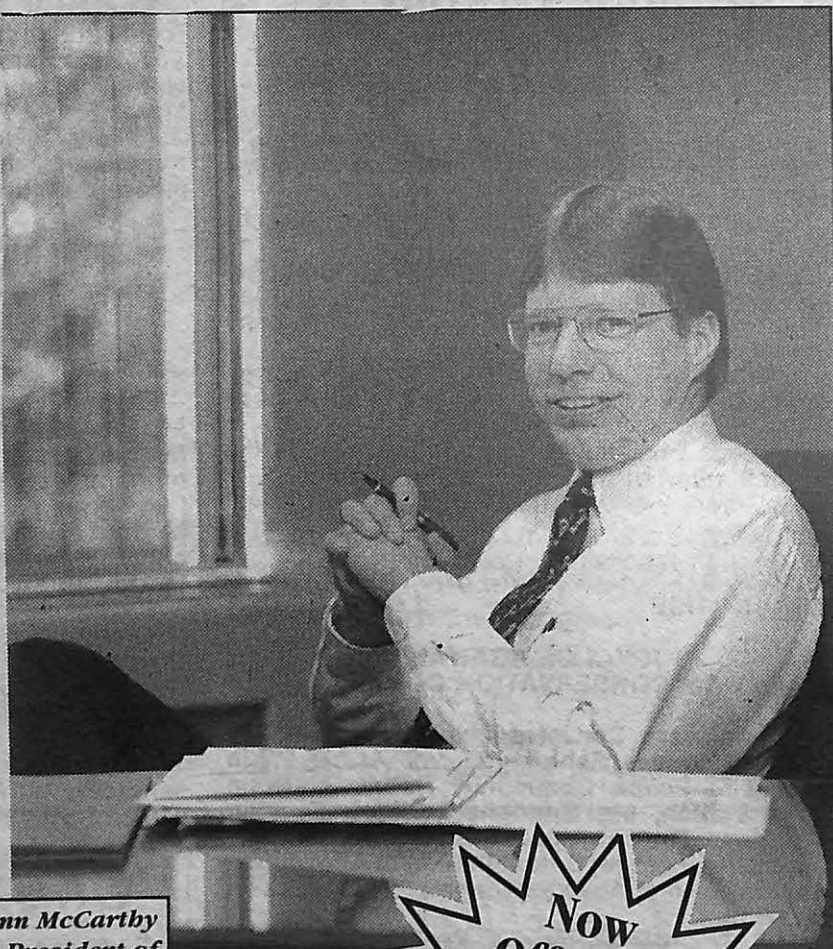
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Church News - continued...**St. John's Parish
News And Notes****SUNDAY TO SUNDAY**

Our town Lenten series will begin this week at Sacred Heart on Tuesday morning and here at St. John's on Thursday evening after the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

This video presentation gives insights into the Sunday Scriptures, with some suggestions for the week ahead. We think you will find the program quite helpful.

AGAWAM CATHOLIC SINGLES CLUB

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in joining should call Frank, 789-2764, or Kay B., 786-8442.

Upcoming Events:

February 21st: Lunch and/or tour of Springfield Armory. Contact Carol, 789-8442.

February 26th: Bay Path College's production of "Bye Bye Birdie." Contact Joanne, 786-1583.

BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday morning. Interested? Call Annette at 786-4977.

Each Friday morning, a video presentation of Sunday's Scriptures in the Parish Center after Mass.

MILLENNIUM

The millennium is upon us and St. John's Parish Community is getting prepared to have a series of ongoing events throughout 1999 and 2000.

Think about getting involved with planning and participating in these events. We will keep you aware when the next millennium meeting will take place in February.

PARISH BEREAVEMENT GROUP

The Parish Bereavement Group meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the Foyer of the Parish Center from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Call Sr. Fran White for more information at 786-4499.

**Corned Beef And
Cabbage Dinner At
St. David's Church**

St. David's Episcopal Church will be hosting a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Monday, March 1st at 6:00 p.m.

The dinner will be held at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The menu will include corned beef & cabbage, oven-roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, garden salad, bread & butter, coffee, tea, cold drinks, and dessert.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. These may be purchased in advance at St. David's or at the door.

Proceeds from this dinner will go towards the debt reduction of the new church building.

For more information, please call (413) 786-6133.

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE****TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, February 25, 1999 at 7:45 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of the Town of Agawam for property located on Main Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: February 18, 1999

**"On The Calendar" This Week At
Feeding Hills Congregational Church**

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. The lectionary readings for February 21st, the first Sunday in Lent, will be Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Passing Our Tests." Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

This Sunday, February 21st, will be Blanket Sunday. We will collect monetary donations for Church World Service during morning worship on that day and again next Sunday.

There will be a quilting social here on Saturday, February 20th, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Previous attendance or experience is not required. Bring a project or just stop in for ideas!

**Weekly Listing Of Upcoming Events
At Agawam Congregational Church**

This Sunday, February 21st, is the First Sunday in Lent. The Senior High youth of the church will lead and participate in the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be, "It Is Contagious," taken from Text: Psalm 32. His Children's Message will be, "Happiness."

Please bring your "Ark" to this week's service for the Heifer Dedication.

New members will be joining the church this Sunday. They are Judy & John Timms and Laura Carter.

The Adult Bible Discussion Group will now meet each first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:45 p.m., following the 7:00 p.m. Midweek Service. The next Discussion Group will meet on March 3rd.

All are invited to attend this informal, non-threatening, fun group. For more information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

**Opportunities To Observe Lent
Available At First Baptist Church**

Several opportunities to observe the Lenten season will be available to individuals and families at the First Baptist Church, in addition to morning worship at 9:30 a.m.

A series entitled "The Hurried Family" will be held on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Light refreshments will be served following the study period, held in Lockhart Parlor.

On Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m., starting on February 24th, a book study will be led by Deacon Ray Williams, Jr. The book to be used for the study is "Six Hours One Friday" by Max Lucado. This will continue throughout the Lenten season.

There will be a Maundy Thursday service in the sanctuary on April 1st at 7:30 p.m. More details will be forthcoming about this service.

The Board of Trustees have rescheduled their monthly meeting for Monday, February 22nd at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Christian Education will meet at the same time on this night, also.

There will be an evening worship service here on Sunday, February 28th at 6:30 p.m. Bring a favorite reading or special music and join in this special service led by lay persons of this church.

On the calendar:

Saturday, Feb. 20th: 1:00 p.m., Quilting Social

Sunday, Feb. 21st: 10:00 a.m., Blanket Sunday;

2:00 p.m., Pinewood Derby

Monday, Feb. 22nd: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Trustees; 7:00 p.m., Christian Ed.

Tuesday, Feb. 23rd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, Feb. 24th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir

Thursday, Feb. 25th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Men's Prayer Time is held weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. This half-hour includes a devotional reading, prayer, and a time of refreshments and fellowships.

All are welcome to this very special time. For more information, contact Rev. Fuller at 786-7111.

The Catering Committee Meatloaf Supper scheduled for Saturday, February 27th, has been cancelled.

Calling all painters! Below Bryan Hall (church school classrooms), all walls have been prepared for primer paint. Join us on February 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the 19th, to help out.

All supplies will be provided. Following the project, pizza and soda will be provided for our helpful painters.

For more information on this project, call the church office at 786-7111.

In addition, after morning worship during Lent, a new class is being offered, entitled "Love Life for every Married Couple" led by Pastor Richard Barnes.

Coming up this week:

Tuesday, February 23rd: 10:00 a.m. - Searchlighters Bible Study at the home of Phyllis Cathepaugh; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, February 24th: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. - Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Lenten Study Group, Lockhart Parlor.

Thursday, February 25th: 7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal.

Caring connection contacts for the month of February are Sharon and Doug Grabowski.

**"Church News" is a weekly feature of The
Agawam Advertiser News...**

* * * * *

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Church News - continued...



Reflections...
submitted by
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toll free (877) 643-9801

Why People Need To Be Born Again...

Some time ago, a joke was making the rounds about born again Christians. "If they were born right the first time, they wouldn't need to be 'born again,'" went the joke. While admittedly the joke lacks a measure of humor by some standards, nevertheless it is poignant in the truth it reveals. The fact of the matter is, if anybody was born right the first time, such a person wouldn't need to be 'born again.' However, none of us are perfect, are we?

If we wonder why people need to be born again, we need look no further than the world we live in. If people were born right the first time, we wouldn't need to worry about nuclear, and now, biological warfare; or, for that matter, most of our other problems.

The vast majority of the problems of the world wouldn't even exist if we were born right the first time, since the vast majority of the world's problems are the result of sin. For example, in Russia, 70 percent of the population lives at or below the subsistence level. Forty percent of Russia's children are chronically ill.

While we're living longer in the United States, the life expectancy of the average Russian male has declined from 64 to 59 years during this decade. Russia's standard of living has collapsed even as the IMF has pumped \$150 billion into the country.

Why wasn't \$150 billion in emergency aid enough to keep Russia's people out of abject poverty? Because it was stolen by Russian oligarchs, who were already fabulously rich by the world's standards. If people were born right the first time, the Russian oligarchs wouldn't have robbed their own countrymen blind.

If people were born right, the world would not have desperately needed a Savior. But we weren't born right, which led to the vast majority of the world's troubles and why we need to be born again. Slick talk and smooth words ring hollow in the face of great human need, whether that need is an individual's or an entire country's.

The Apostle Paul said to the Corinthians, "When I came to you, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." God intends that our human need will drive us into His loving arms, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

When Paul used the word "know," he was speaking of being utterly convinced. Paul had no doubt that each and every person needs to be born again. Indeed, if there ever was a person who did not need to be born again, that person was probably Paul.

Paul wrote, "If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews, as to the law, a Pharisee, as to zeal, a persecutor of the Church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless."

Paul was as religious as a person could get. Some people try hard to please God with their religious behavior, but few if any could compare with Paul.

But what did all of this come to mean to Paul? Yet whatever gains I had, these have I come to regard as loss because of Christ. Jesus Christ and Him crucified is one of the great levelers of humankind.

When we come to understand our own personal human need which was addressed by the love of God in Christ, we can no longer be proud. None of us were born right the first time, but that doesn't have to be the end of the story.

By admitting our need and embracing God's love, each of us can be born again.

Lenten Observances Set To Commence At Valley Community Church In Feeding Hills

The congregation of Valley Community Church would like to welcome all to join us in our lovely sanctuary high atop the hill at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, MA, for our Sunday morning worship.

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m. and our interim pastor, Rev. Dr. Robert Loesch, will lead us and challenge us in his sermon, "God's Stewards." The scripture lessons will be taken from Psalm 15 and Philippians 3:17-21. Fellowship in Dunn Hall follows the service from 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Children attend Sunday school from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This time slot is also when adults attend Bible Study, which currently focuses on our Spiritual Gifts.

Our Lenten Series continues on Wednesday evenings from February 24th through March 24th

at 7:00 p.m. A special Lenten Soup Supper will be held on Friday, February 26th, at 5:30 p.m. There is no charge for this supper. All are invited to bring their own bowl and spoon and join us.

Board of Missions will be serving dinner at Loaves and Fishes Rescue Mission on Sunday, February 28th, at 5:00 p.m. This mission begins its third year at Valley Community Church.

The Junior Choir meets every Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:00 p.m. Any child age six to 14 is invited to attend and participate in this joyful expression of praise and worship. Senior Choir will meet at 8:00 p.m.

Valley Community Church is non-denominational and welcomes all people of the Christian faith to join us in worship and service to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Check our classified ads in each edition — AAN!!!

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5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
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Tenderloin	\$5.69 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.39 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.69 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
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5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Country Style Pork Ribs	\$1.19 Lb.

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Red & Green Seedless Grapes	\$1.19 Lb.
Washington State Red Delicious Apples	69¢ Lb.
Extra Large Green Peppers	99¢ Lb.
Onions (3 Lb. Bag)	89¢
Long Green Celery (Bunch)	89¢
Romaine Hearts (Pkg.)	\$1.89

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Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gal.)	\$2.19
Hood 2% Low Fat Milk (½ Gal.)	\$1.39
Hood Half & Half (Pint)	89¢
Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Doz.)	99¢
Friendly Ice Cream (½ Gal.)	2/\$7.00

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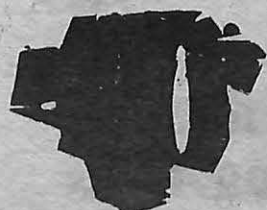
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Spotlight On Business

Parthenon Restaurant Marks 15th Anniversary

Just about every day when entering by the side door of **THE PARTHENON RESTAURANT** over on Suffield Street, you'll find owner Leonidas "Louie" Pananas holding court with one, two, or a small group of friends. His wife, Carol, busily attends to the needs of seated and arriving customers. This scene is played over and over again, day in and day out.

Louie and Carol just celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on February 4th. They are also celebrating their 15th year in business at 835 Suffield Street — a site that's become somewhat of a landmark for folks around here. It's easy to brag about the food at this place; the menu is vast, just like Louie's wide grin or his sense of humor.

But while Louie and Carol are now enjoying the fruits of their labors — a comfortable home in town; a successful business; a loving family; and many friends — Louie sat us down in his famous corner booth and talked on and on about how life's twists and turns carried him from a dirt-poor beginning in Greece to his current station in life in February 1999.

A Master Storyteller...

Louie is a master storyteller. His is a tale that began in Olympia in the south of Greece, the place where the first Olympic games were held thousands of years ago. This place was small and poor; farming and tending to modest herds of goats were how people survived day by day. That's how Louie described life back in 1946.

He was the fourth of seven children. His parents could neither read nor write. From them and his siblings, he learned his life's lessons — respect for values, taking responsibility for oneself, and reaching and attaining goals. Honest work, no matter how humble. One must work.

At age 12, Louie was finished with school. This was the way for such poor families in 1958 Greece. Against his father's wishes, he traveled by himself for an eight-hour bus trip to Athens to join with two older brothers and a sister. He described their housing as a chicken coop. For Louie, Athens was an incredible place — another planet for a 12 year-old boy who had never left home before. He sought a better life for himself with elder siblings who were trying the same.

The very next day, he found a job as a delivery boy for a coffee shop. He then graduated to a delivery boy at a general store (by this time, his father had given his blessing for Louie to remain in Athens).

At age 17 in 1963, Louie was presented with a breathtaking opportunity — to work as a bus boy on a Greek cruise liner. Because of his age, getting his father's signature to obtain the needed seaman's book would be a problem. His father liked his family close by. Athens was acceptable

SEE PARTHENON - Page 17...



THE PARTHENON RESTAURANT, located at 835 Suffield Street (Route 75), Agawam, is celebrating its 15th year in business. IN TOP PHOTO (from left to right): Joanne LaGrange, Aly El Sebae, owners Leonidas (a.k.a. "Louie") & Carol Pananas, Wladimir Duarte, and Marie Fortier are always ready to greet customers with a smile and friendly service. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.



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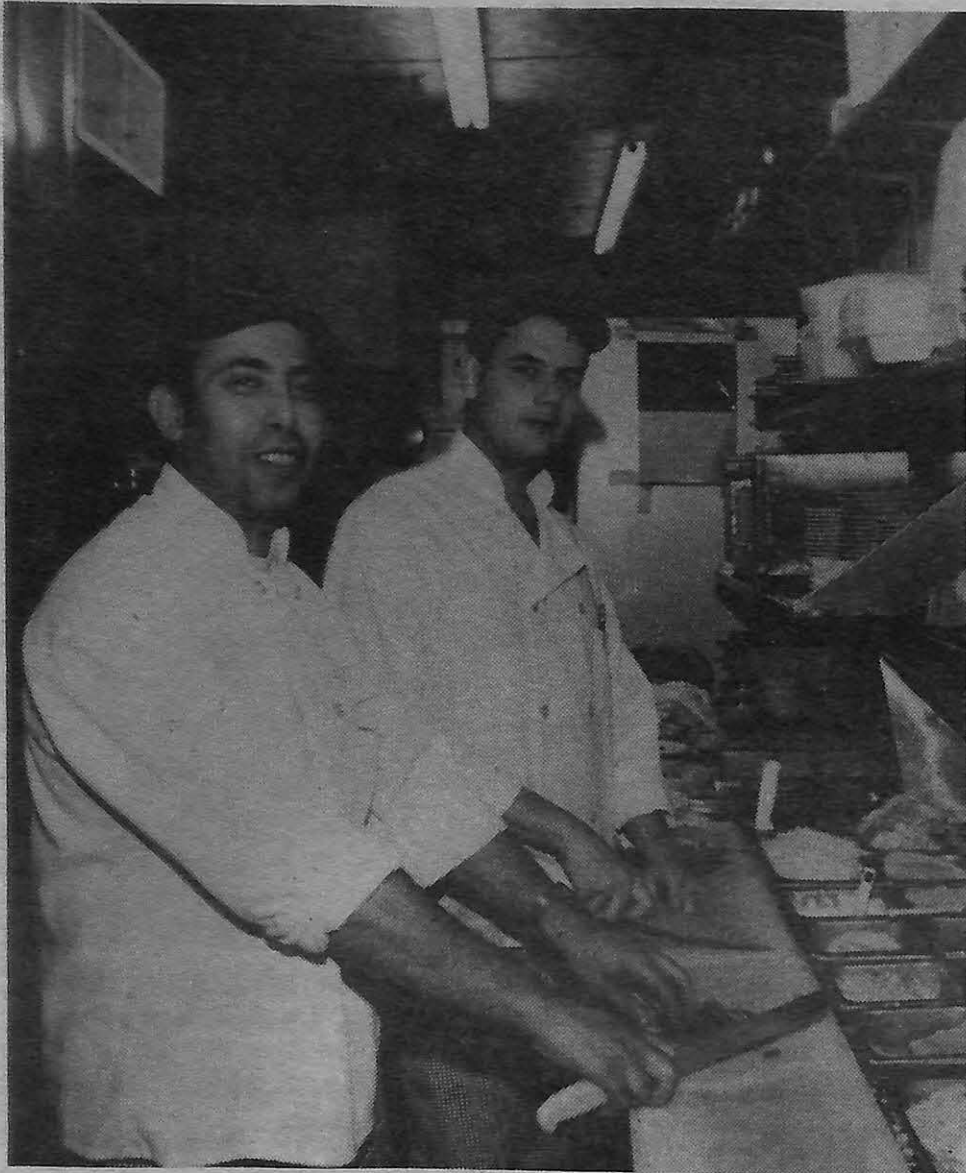


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Spotlight On Business - continued...

ALY EL SEBAE AND WLADIMYR DUARTE are busy at work preparing delicious meals at the Parthenon Restaurant. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.



JOANNE LAGRANGE AND MARIE FORTIER provide customer Augusta Weldon (seated) with the well-known service that the Parthenon Restaurant has built its reputation on. Advertiser News photo by Jack

Devine.

PARTHENON - from Page 16...

because he traveled there often. But this? No way. Louie would be the first in the family to leave Greece.

Louie told his father a whopper. The papers would allow him to join the Greek army. His father signed. Louie scrambled to secure the job and make all the necessary arrangements before going back to his father with the truth. He lived to see another day.

For the next 10 years on this Greek luxury liner, Louie sailed the seven seas to nearly every famous port of call in the world. As a waiter, he served people of great wealth and power. He watched. He observed. He learned more lessons of life.

Despite being surrounded by the rich and famous in such luxury, Louie says to this day, he remains haunted by the visit of a group of nuns while the ship was parked in port in Thailand. The nuns were allowed to rummage through, collect, and remove heaps of garbage from the ship's kitchen. When quizzed about their mission, the nuns responded, "We have to feed the people." Louie said this act of compassion and simple humility by these nuns profoundly affected him for years to come.

Louie managed to spend his vacations with his family back in Greece. He saved no money during these years — all of it went back to his family; in particular, for one of his younger sisters so she would have a proper dowry when her time came to marry. Louie said this was his responsibility as an elder brother.

Coming To America...

In 1973, Louie's passion for America and his desire to leave his life on the liner enabled him to convince an American family from Connecticut to let him leave with them. He packed his suitcase, jumped into a car, and was now an illegal alien in Danielson, Connecticut. On his first day there, he found a job at a Greek pizza place. Within a week, he was living in a one-room apartment.

Soon after, Louie was set-up on a blind date with a girl named Carol, who was visiting her sister from the midwest. They clicked. Carol got a job at a nearby pizza joint. About seven months later, on February 4, 1974, they were married by a justice of the peace in Norwich, Connecticut. They arrived with \$55 between them. It was snowing buckets. Carol was driving. They needed a wedding ring for the ceremony. The car got stuck in the snow. Louie, still without a license, drove the car up an icy hill en route to the purchase of a \$35 wedding ring. The ceremony cost \$15. The remaining five bucks went to a wedding night supper of pizza on the way back to Danielson.

Life's ride for Louie and Carol saw them working at pizza places and learning the business for next four years. They left the east and went to Wilcox, Arizona (home of Roy Rogers and Dale

Evans), from 1979 to 1982. There, they managed to open three restaurants with the help of George Kittredge, the same man who owns Kittredge Equipment Company on Columbus Avenue in Springfield.

George said to Louie, "I will finance all of your equipment and ship it to you out there because you are Greek. And I know you will pay me back."

Louie did. But restaurant life in Arizona turned sour when too much competition cut into their profit. So, Louie and Carol, with two cars and two kids, packed their cars after selling everything, cut their losses, and returned to Connecticut. They were back to square one. Louie accepted a job in a factory where the wages were at the lower end of the scale, to put it mildly. "I was never unemployed for a day in my life and I wasn't going to start now," Louie remembered saying at the time.

One Of His Proudest Moments...

According to him, one of the proudest days of his life came when he was no longer an illegal alien. "Becoming an American citizen was a great day for me," he said.

Louie again yearned for his own restaurant. In his spare time, he searched town after town in Connecticut and then over the line into Massachusetts, where he finally settled on a place on College Highway in Southwick that was owned by the Cumberland Farms Convenience Store chain. He called it The Parthenon.

In 1983, he sold the Southwick Parthenon and opened one in Greenfield. The business there boomed. He was soon stricken with health problems and he was forced to sell. It was gone in two days and the profit was a handsome one.

Louie was told that Cumberland Farms was erecting a building on Suffield Street in Agawam. Louie's past associations (as a renter in Southwick as well as in Greenfield) with Cumberland Farms made this an easy deal. In 1984, **THE PARTHENON RESTAURANT** opened in Agawam.

Louie, Carol, and kids immediately moved into town and, after a while, bought a home. Their roots are here. "My family has been in Agawam for 15 years and I say to Agawam, thank-you," said Louie. "The support here has been wonderful. We take care of people and they take care of us right back."

Over the years, Louie's father passed on, but his mother is alive and well and Louie returns to Greece whenever he can to visit. He was asked to push his restaurant as it celebrates 15 years in business. He only said that his food, service, and nice atmosphere were testimony to the many years of hard work by he and Carol.

Louie wanted to retell more stories but left with this parting remark: "Kids coming into the world today are learning that things are given to them. This is the wrong lesson of life. You must go out and be honest, work hard, and treat people with respect. I will never forget where I came from."



PARTHENON RESTAURANT OWNERS Leonidas (a.k.a. "Louie") & Carol Pananas say "thank-you" to Agawam for supporting their business for the past 15 years. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE****TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on **THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999** at 6:45 P.M., for all parties interested in the appeal of **GARY ARNOLD & LINDA LEWIS/SHIBLEY**, who are seeking relief (Variance) from Section 180-41 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a single family residence with less than the required frontage, at the premises identified as **LOT NO. 18, SOUTH WEST STREET**.

Doreen Prouty
Acting Chairperson

Published: February 18, 1999

Spotlight On Business - continued...**Pam Savioli**

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**Starting The Buying Process**

So you've found the house of your dreams and you're planning to make an offer. Here are the steps your sales associate will help you take.

Decide how much you want to pay for the home you've chosen. Consider how long the house has been on the market and how reasonable the asking price is. You should also decide the top amount you're willing to pay.

However, keep that figure to yourself to maintain your ability to negotiate.

In your offer, spell out the special conditions of the purchase. Include items such as appliances and window treatments, and closing and occupancy dates. Your purchase may be contingent on your ability to obtain financing or a favorable inspection report.

You will submit earnest money with your offer. If you buy the house, the earnest money is applied to the downpayment or closing costs. If your offer isn't accepted, your money will be refunded.

The seller will either accept or reject your offer. If the offer is rejected, you may be presented with a counteroffer.

PIONEER GROUP To Hold Free Workshop

THE PIONEER GROUP is sponsoring a free public service workshop for Veterans and Reservists entitled "Buying a Home Using the VA Loan Program."

It will be held Saturday, February 27th. Because the previous workshops have been filled to capacity, the public is now invited to attend either the morning session (9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.) or the early afternoon session (12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.).

The seminars will take place at the West Springfield Professional Center, located at 1111 Elm Street, Suite 21, in West Springfield.

Topics to be discussed include understanding the many benefits of the VA Loan Program for both first-time and move-up home buyers, understanding points and closing costs and how to minimize these fees, understanding seller contributions, the difference between a bank and a mortgage company and which one offers the better value, and much more. The information contained in this 90-minute seminar may save today's first-time and move-up buyers thousands of dollars.

Speakers at the workshop include Donald Thompson, a Principal of THE PIONEER GROUP and Raymond Rose, a retired mortgage banker.

The workshop is free of charge and reservations are suggested. Their last seminar was filled to capacity. For more information, please listen to the recorded info message at 846-0950. Those that attend the workshop will receive a free copy of their credit report along with an application for a free VA mortgage pre-approval.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following **LANDRY, LYONS AND WHYTE/Better Homes and Gardens'** top sales award winners for 1998: back row - Anne O'Donnell, Greg Traub, Roger Trombly, Shawn Mitchell, and Meli Morash; front row - Karen King, Barbara Foley, Denise DeSellier, Judy Gearing (a resident of Feeding Hills), and Brenda Swist.

LANDRY, LYONS AND WHYTE Names 1998's Top Sales Award Winners

LANDRY, LYONS AND WHYTE/Better Homes and Gardens has announced that Judy Gearing of the firm's West Springfield office has won the award for "Top Associate" of that office.

The announcement was made at a recent breakfast held at the Springfield Marriott honoring the firm's top sales awards for 1998.

The "Top Associate" of the Feeding Hills office for the second year in a row was Pam Savioli of Agawam. Mrs. Savioli has been in real estate since 1986 and has been with LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co. for the past five years.

One-hundred seven Associates were also inducted into the Better Homes and Gardens Medallion Club for sales production of \$1 million to \$18 million in 1998. Twenty-five Associates and staff were recognized for five, 10, 15, and 20 years of service to LANDRY, LYONS AND WHYTE.

LANDRY, LYONS AND WHYTE/Better Homes

and Gardens is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts with over 240 Associates in 14 offices located in Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Feeding Hills, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Palmer, 16 Acres, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

The firm has been recognized as one of the Top 200 real estate companies in the United States by *REAL TRENDS* and participated in over \$300 million in sales revenue in 1998. The firm recently merged with STEARNS & YERRALL Realtors, forming LANDRY, LYONS, STEARNS & YERRALL/Better Homes and Gardens, a division of CARLSON/Better Homes and Gardens and owned by GMAC Home Service. The combined firms closed over 4,500 transaction sides in 1998 and over \$500 million in volume.

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**Agawam Public Library's
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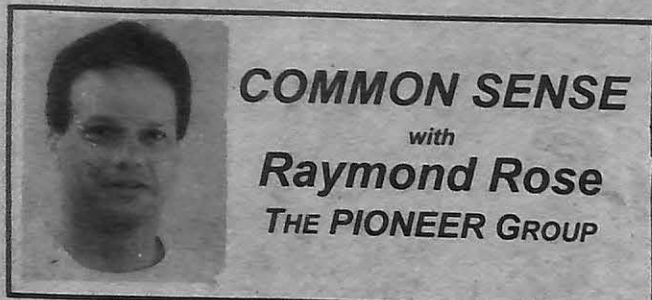
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
THE PIONEER GROUP

Home Improvements That Help Your Bottom Line

When planning a home improvement project, one important factor to consider is what an appraiser will think of your improvements when you are ready to sell your house.

Before a bank will finance a buyer's bid when selling your home, an appraiser must examine the house to give an estimate of its value. An updated house that is well-maintained stands a better chance of getting a higher appraisal, which helps you sell your home for more money.

In most cases, you should not expect a dollar-for-dollar return of your investment, but many improvements come close to it. Adding an extra bath or upgrading your kitchen usually provides the best return. How much will largely depend on where you live, so check with your local real estate buyer's agent to see which improvements typically add the most value in your area. To get the most out of your home improvement dollars, keep the following guidelines in mind...

1. Don't over-improve! If you already have the most expensive house on the block, you can expect to recover a smaller percentage of your home improvement expenses when you sell your home. That is because an appraiser determines the value of your home partially by comparing it to the value of other homes in your neighborhood. So, if you over-improve, it is likely that an appraisal will be far less than what you invested.

2. Quality counts! Craftsmanship and style play a part in your home's appraisal. An addition that looks tacked on or suffers from poor workmanship may get a lower appraised value.

3. Modern conveniences and upgrades are the key! Homebuyers tend to shy away from fixer-uppers. For this reason, improvements can help you sell your home faster and buyers may be more willing to meet your asking price. Improvements such as these also tend to help you get a better appraisal, which is important because lenders base their decisions partly on the house's appraised value.

4. Keep good records! Provide records of the improvements to the appraiser, along with a list of the square footage of your home, its age, lot size, and construction quality.

THE RISKS INVOLVED WITH INVESTING

The market is always fluctuating, but you can manage the inevitable ups and downs.

Know your risk tolerance! All investments involve some risks, and some investments more than others. Your personal risk profile could range from conservative to aggressive. Know your tolerance for risk and select investments that make you feel comfortable.

Know your investment goals! Investments are tools for achieving goals. An investment professional can help you match your investments to your financial needs. It is just as important to know your time horizon. In other words, how long you plan to invest.

Stay diversified! Not every investment market reacts the same way to different economic conditions. But, by diversifying your money among different asset classes, such as stocks, bonds, and money market funds, gains in one asset class can offset losses in others. In other words, don't put all your investment eggs in one basket.

Financial needs and resources vary at different stages in your life, so take the time periodically to reevaluate your assets and goals.

SLASH CREDIT CARD DEBT

Sure, most people need a credit card for airline tickets, car rentals, and hotel bills. But do you need to put small purchases like gifts, cosmetics, and clothes, or everyday expenses like groceries and gas on your account?

Ideally, you should charge only what you can pay off completely each month, but how many of us can meet that ideal?

Set a goal, first, of cutting your plastic payments in half. Pay off your high rate credit cards first or transfer your balances to a low rate card. While you are paying off a card, try not to use it at all. Don't even carry your card around with you. Pay cash for everyday necessities ... and it can be done!

Remember, purchases with plastic have to be paid off in real dollars!

Raymond Rose's "Common Sense" is a regular feature of The AAN...

Kevin Lohnes Joins Agawam Office Of COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA

Robert P. Molta, President of COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA ASSOCIATES, is proud to announce that KEVIN LOHNES has joined its Agawam office.

Since 1990, Kevin has been involved in new construction, working throughout Canada and all of New England with Hearthstone Timberframe and Log Homes of Tennessee.

Kevin has attended Springfield Technical Community College and United Technical Schools and is a lifelong resident of West Springfield.

Kevin can be reached at 755-2420 or 789-9890. Coldwell Banker Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of Cendant Corporation (NYSE:CD),

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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Legal Memo**

by

Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



**Insurance
Homeowner's Policy
Injury To Grandson**

Where (1) an eight year-old boy was injured at his grandmother's residence and (2) an insurance company which had issued a homeowner's policy to the grandmother brought suit seeking a declaration that the injured boy was a resident of the home at the time of the accident and, therefore, was an "insured" exempt from coverage under the policy, this court finds that the boy is entitled to benefits under the policy.

Such is the case because the boy was not a resident of his grandmother's home, as he and his mother were only living there temporarily after their own home had been burglarized.

In sum, the injured boy did not intend to reside in his grandmother's home permanently, he was not financially dependent on his grandmother and she did not have legal responsibility to support the child. This uncontroverted evidence supports the court's legal determination that the boy was not a resident of the grandmother's household, was not an "insured" under the terms of the policy, and is consequently entitled to proceeds from his grandmother's policy.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

**Please be sure to
patronize your local
businesses - AAN!!!**

**Timely Tips On
How To Manage
Your Finances**

by **Sue N. Alvanos**
Personal Financial Advisor
American Express



**Pay Less Taxes And Keep
More Of Your Money**

Taxes are a fact of life and the reality is that some Americans pay as much as half of their income in federal, state, and local taxes. While you can't eliminate income taxes completely, a sound tax strategy may help you keep more of your money and reach your financial goals. The following are some ways to take advantage of opportunities to reduce your tax burden.

Give appreciated assets to family members or charity. One option for reducing capital gains tax due on the sale of appreciated investments is to transfer the assets to your children. Once made, the gift is irrevocable. This can be done using the Uniform Transfer to Minors Act (UTMA) or Uniform Gift to Minors (UGMA). Under the tax law, the first \$700 in investment earnings are tax free for children. For children under age 14, the next \$700 in earnings are taxed at the child's rate and any earnings over \$1,400 are taxed at your highest tax rate. For kids age 14 and over, the earnings in excess of \$700 are taxed at the child's rate.

In the last scenario, children age 14 or older pay tax on the capital gain at their tax rate. If they're in

the 15 percent bracket, their tax on long-term capital gains is 10 percent rather than the 20 percent rate that applies to taxpayers in higher brackets. Keep in mind, however, when shifting assets that gift taxes may apply to transfers of more than \$10,000 per person per year (\$20,000 for joint gifts by spouses).

You also might consider gifting appreciated property held for more than one year to charities. This is a double win as you not only avoid the capital gains tax, you also get a charitable deduction at the appreciated value. Something to be aware of is that not all appreciated property held more than one year receives this beneficial treatment. Appreciated tangible property (includes cars, jewelry, furniture, books, etc. not created by the donor) is divided into two categories:

- Donors who give property that will be used by the charity in a manner that is related to the charity's exempt purpose can deduct the fair market value of the property (whether appreciated or not).

- Donors who give property that will not be used by the charity in a manner that is related to the charity's exempt purpose can deduct the lesser of the fair market value of the property or the cost.

Offset capital gains with losses. Recent market swings may have caused some of your investments to fare better than others. If so, it may make sense to offset gains from some holdings with losses from others. Capital losses are first used to offset capital gains. If your capital losses are larger than capital gains, you can deduct excess losses against ordinary income of up to \$3,000 for that year. Any losses remaining after those deductions can be carried over and used in future years.

Sue N. Alvanos is a Feeding Hills resident. Call her at 534-3883, extension 225, American Express Financial Advisors, Holyoke.

Our "Spotlight On Business" is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week ... Advertiser News!!!

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smilin' ...**

**(Your tastebuds
will be smilin' too!)**

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For Your Health

A Happy Camper!!!



ED BORGATTI (Easter Seals Vice Chairman) and volunteer **Rosemary Sandlin** recently spoke with nine year-old **Joey Page** from **Ashfield**, who attended Easter Seals camp last summer. During the kick-off for the Easter Seals 1999 campaign, Joey wanted to try on Borgatti's suit jacket to see how it fit.

Offerings At Noble Hospital In Westfield

SUPPORT GROUP:

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, February 24th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke and their spouses, caregivers, and other interested parties.

The topic will be "Speech Therapy and Swallowing after a Stroke."

COURSE:

Beginner Level Tai Chi Classes to begin Tuesday, February 23rd. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Series of 12 classes with Master Instructor Baiqing Li will be held on the following dates: February 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, May 4th, 11th, and 18th.

The classes will be held from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and the cost for the entire series is \$108.

Advance registration and payment are required. Class size is limited.

For registration form or additional information, call Noble Hospital's Health Beat at (413) 568-2328.

Fitness Tips...

Target Heart Rates - Are You There?

by **Carmela A. Kirk, RN**
Fitness Director, Fitness First

Working the cardiovascular system is important. Heart and lung disease not only can be prevented by regular aerobic exercise, but it is also the way to rehabilitate from insult to these systems. Aerobic exercise can be as light as walking or intense as spinning. There are all different ranges to work in depending on your level and your goals.

Keeping track of your heart rate is the only way to make sure you are achieving the goals you want. To know what heart rate you want to work in, you have to know a few numbers and a few outcomes.

Your maximum heart rate is a good place to start. This number can be found by doing a stress test at the doctor's office. This is the fastest your heart can beat without insult or injury. You never exercise at this level (not that you'd want to, anyway).

If you are like most of us and have not had a stress test, you can calculate your maximum heart rate (MHR) by subtracting 220 - your age. The next number you need is your rest heart rate (RHR). The best way to get this is to check your pulse three mornings in a row before you get out of bed. This is the time that your heart rate is at its lowest. Take the average of these three numbers; they probably won't be too different each morning.

Next, you need to decide how hard you want to work. Sixty to 85 percent of your maximum heart rate is the range you want. If you are brand-new to exercise, recovering from disease, or (for whatever reason) want to work light, you work at the 60 to 70 percent range. If you want to burn fat, increase endurance, and stay healthy, you need to boost it up to about 75 percent.

If you want to get stronger and leaner, perhaps training for a race, you need to get up to the 85 percent level more frequently. If you want to get very strong, push that max heart rate up, and change, you can do interval training, which does involve reaching that max heart rate now and then through the workout. (This last bit belongs in another article all its own.)

Keep in mind you may use various target heart rates at different times during the week. Interval training should only be done once a week. You can stay around that 85 percent mark most of the time. Use the 60 percent area for a recovery day.

Now here's the calculation you want: **(220 - age) MHR - RHR x 60% to 85% plus RHR equals THR.**

Practice the calculation a few times, calculating it for both 60 percent and 85 percent so you know your range. Next time you're working out, make sure you are reaching your target. No one wants to waste time when it comes to exercise.

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Your Back And Your Health

by **Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer**
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Kinder, Gentler Care

Sometimes a newborn child's neck will be twisted or tilted to one side. This so-called "fixed wry neck" (technically known as infant torticollis) is usually caused by problems during birth.

The condition causes painful, involuntary spasms, impedes normal growth and development; disturbs vision, and frustrates parents and the child.

Surgery on muscles, nerves, and tendons may repair the damage, and intensive physical therapy, drugs, and other standard medical treatments may provide some relief, but chiropractic care should also be considered.

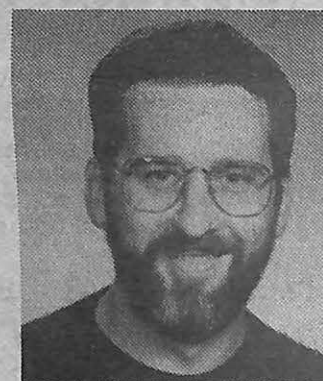
A new study shows that a few chiropractic sessions can have an enormous impact on normalizing the child's health and restoring its appropriate pace of physical and social development.

Best of all, the sessions a child has with the chiropractor can be pleasant, soothing, and reassuring to the child and parents alike. Treatment involves low-force manipulation and gentle massage of the neck and jaw.

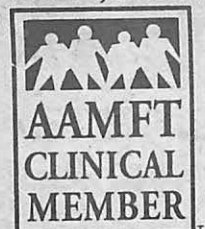
Children who suffer from this condition deserve safe, effective treatment that offers immediate, lasting relief - precisely what chiropractic offers.

Drs. Joseph and Katherine Schlaffer have been helping young and old alike get well, naturally, for over 20 years. Call 789-1369 or 789-1073

Individual, Couple & Family Therapy



Daniel Pender,
M.A., M.F.T.



Marriage & Family Therapist

Whether meeting with an individual, a couple or several members of a family unit, I am concerned with the individual's role in a family system. A goal of therapy is to identify current problems as they relate to a person's original family, past and/or present.

Once the client's role in the original family system has been named, my job becomes one of providing coaching for life in the present. The work then entails finding resources and creative options for alternative choices that free us to interact in ways that are fulfilling in the present.

Special areas of work include:

- Marital and relationship conflict.
- The connection between therapy and spirituality.
- Parenting and school related issues.
- Death, Loss & transitions
- Feminism and men's issues
- Finding and protecting the inner child and true self

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For Your Health - continued...

Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

When Teens Say, "I Don't Eat That"

Statements such as "I don't eat animal products," or "I don't eat dairy foods" exemplify the way some teens segment their diets and sometimes eliminate entire categories of foods. If teens do not take care to include sufficient amounts of macronutrients (fat, carbohydrate, and protein), food avoidance can be detrimental health and nutritional status.

Vegetarianism is a growing movement in many age groups, and adolescents are no exception. According to Jo Ann Hattner, M.P.H., R.D., a clinical nutritionist at Stanford University Medical Center, teen vegetarians face dietary dilemmas beyond those of adult vegetarians.

"The diets of adolescent vegetarians can be quite low in protein and trace minerals, particularly on a vegan diet." Therefore, those teens need to incorporate a variety of protein sources into their diets to get all the essential amino acids. She goes on to suggest that, "Educating teens about the importance of a variety of protein sources is essential in order to get this vital nutrient into the diet. Soy products and a variety of canned beans and peas are quick and easy ways to boost protein intake."

Ms. Hattner advises teens who are considering becoming vegetarians to make an appointment with a registered dietitian to learn how to make good nutritional choices to reduce the chance of deficiencies in calcium, iron, zinc, and vitamin B12.

Milk, that staple of childhood, is often consumed in less than recommended amounts among teens. Less milk translates into less calcium. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture surveys, roughly nine out of 10 girls and nearly seven out of 10 boys, ages 12 to 19, are not getting the recommended amount of calcium.

"Even though teens may have reached their full height, they are still developing about half the bone mass their bodies will need for a lifetime," said Connie Weaver, Ph.D., professor and head of the Department of Foods and Nutrition at Purdue

"For Your Health" is a regular feature of The AAN!

* * *

University. The National Academy of Sciences recommends that teens and children ages nine to 18 consume 1,300 mg of calcium per day, the equivalent of four servings of dairy products.

How can we help teens temper extreme eating behaviors? The answer isn't simple. Just as there are many types of people in the world, there are many ways to bring about changes in people. The key, summarized Ms. Hattner, is in finding the proper motivating force for each teen.

"We can motivate teens to eat right by focusing on those things that are important to them, be it athletics and performance, height and body image, or beautiful hair, nails, and skin," she said.

"Unfortunately, long-term nutritional goals, such as osteoporosis prevention, don't work with teens, but other goals do." Balance, variety, and moderation are not "sexy" concepts, but learning how to achieve them can go a long way toward helping teens live longer, healthier lives.

Tips for Teens on the Run: "The after-school period is a really critical time for teens because they're usually famished and looking for a quick snack, a combination that can sometimes lead to less-than-ideal dietary choices," said Jo Ann Hattner, M.P.H., R.D., a clinical nutritionist at Stanford University Medical Center. She recommends making snacks quick and portable to help improve food choices for busy teens. Below are tips to help quell teens' hunger until dinnertime:

- * Make after-school snacks into mini-meals. Quick choices might include a sandwich, a quesadilla or wrap, or last night's leftovers.

- * Shakes made in the blender from frozen fruit, yogurt, and juice are quick and portable. Also, juice bars are popular around the country. They offer made-to-order fruit and vegetable juice drinks that can provide an afternoon snack option.

- * Have a good selection of nutritious snack foods on hand so teens can easily help themselves to something tasty and satisfying. Good options might include sliced cheese and crackers, cut vegetables with a low-fat dip or salsa, or a bowl of cereal with milk and fruit.

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield St., Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030; (413) 786-2957.

Western Mass. Alliance For The Mentally Ill To Host Support Group Mtg. On Feb. 22nd

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill—Western Mass. will sponsor a Support Group Meeting on Monday, February 22nd at the Agawam Council on Aging, 68 Meadowbrook Manor in Agawam from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Attorney Marilyn J. Schmidt will be the guest speaker. This meeting is **free and open to the public**. Attorney Schmidt will be speaking on issues about Guardianship and Treatment Orders.

Attorney Schmidt has a juris doctor from Boston University and has served as a Reginald



Chiropractic Care

by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

The Human Body's Various "Pains"...

Occasionally, patients will comment about pain occurring in one part of their body; however, the area that is being worked on is totally different.

They'll say, "But, Doc, the pain isn't in my back, it's in my leg." Yes, I understand, the pain feels like it's in the leg; however, the CAUSE of the pain is in the back.

The nervous system, which is composed of the brain, spinal cord, and spinal nerves, is very complex. For example, a nerve may be irritated or "pinched" at the level of the spine, while the problem manifests itself as numbness in the foot.

To treat the problem, the condition first needs to be accurately diagnosed, then properly treated. I could work all day on the foot, but that would never address the real problem, nor correct the numbness in the foot if the cause is elsewhere.

Pain can be referred to many areas. For example, hip pain may originate from the low back, pelvis, knee, or even the feet. I had an elderly patient once who suffered with significant hip pain. She tried everything for the pain, but resigned herself to possible surgery. I adjusted her feet (yes, there are many bones in the feet that can "lock up" and not function properly), which corrected her posture and alleviated the hip pain.

Shoulder pain also can be quite deceiving. Pain in a shoulder can be due to the shoulder joint itself, tendons, or referred pain from the gallbladder or heart. Internal organs can refer pain to many areas, including the abdomen, hip, low back, shoulders, mid-back, and others.

If you are experiencing pain, the body is saying something. It is important not to ignore the signs. Get an opinion from a professional.

Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow from 1979 to 1982. She was Assistant General Counsel with the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health from 1982 to 1989 and Chief Operating Officer of Northampton State Hospital from 1989 to 1991.

She is especially known for her expertise in guardianship and commitment matters. She is a member of the Massachusetts Bar, the Massachusetts Bar Association, the Hampshire County Bar Association, and the Hampden County Bar Association.



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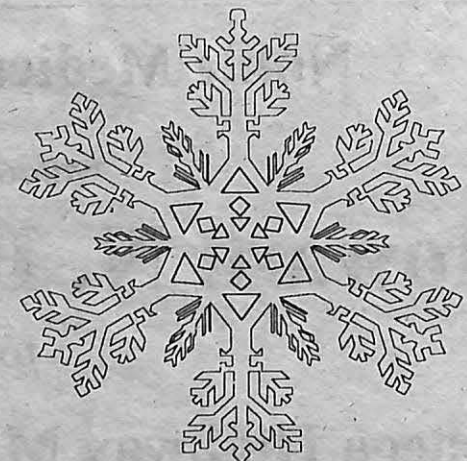
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Arts



"LOOK LIKE THE INNOCENT FLOWER, but be the serpent under't..." Find out the truth in the Suffield Players' production, **"MACBETH."** Call 1-800-289-6148 for tickets.

"MACBETH" Delves Into The Dark World Of The Occult

Man's fascination with the occult and with the mysterious powers that toy with and plague him are nowhere better explored than in the strange and brooding tale of Shakespeare's "MACBETH."

The Suffield Players' production, which runs from February 25th to March 20th at Mapleton hall, delves into this dark world and how the minds and souls of its characters are pushed and pulled into situations beyond their own making.

Macbeth and his Lady live in a time of witches, prophecies, and visions that swirl around them like a living mystery, promising power and riches with one breath and delivering betrayal and madness with the next.

How much of this tragedy is their own doing and how much is that of the brutal fates is yours to decide. The result, though, is a stunning exploration into the frailties of man, dealing with demons both real and perceived.

For tickets, call 1-800-289-6148; doors open at 7:00 p.m. with curtain promptly at 8:00. Prices are only \$8 for the first Thursday and \$12 all other nights. Discounts are available for students and seniors with proper I.D.

STAGE To Present "Runtlin's Rescue" This Weekend

STAGE Children's Theatre will present "Runtlin's Rescue" by Lyle Pearsons on February 19th and 20th at 7:30 p.m., and February 20th and 21st at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Door Theatre, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

"Runtlin's Rescue" tells the story of a township of gnomes whose special token, The Spirit Star, is stolen by a family of trolls. The smallest of the gnomes, Runtlin, sets off in search of it, even though he is considered a runt and quite worthless.

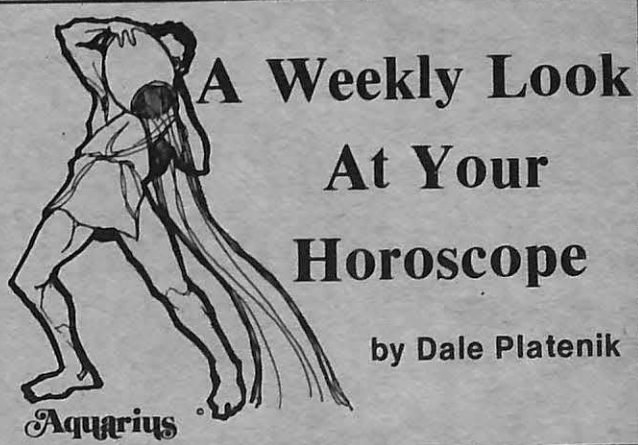
A bully gnome named Gambo, however, sees something in Runtlin and decides to set out to recover The Spirit Star first. Gambo calls on the evil forces of nature to help him foil all rescue attempts by Runtlin.

The trials only serve to strengthen Runtlin's sense of self, for he is protected by Celestial (the center of The Spirit Star) and her points (Faith, Strength, Hope, and Knowledge) during his many adventures. Audience-goers will meet trolls, two-headed snotzgurgles, givers, and takers, as well as many woodland animals who come in contact with Runtlin as he pursues his quest.

This production is being performed by young people from Agawam, Feeding Hills, West Springfield, Springfield, Southwick, Longmeadow, and Suffield, CT.

Come end your winter school vacation with a trip to the country of gnomes. The spiritual uplift you receive from this delightful tale will last you the rest of the year! This production is appropriate for all ages (four to 104!).

All tickets are \$5, and all seats are reserved. Call 789-2026 for reservations.



A Weekly Look At Your Horoscope

by Dale Platenik

Aquarius (Jan. 20th to Feb. 18th): You, the Water-bearer, are the social gadfly of the zodiac. You get wrapped up in one group effort after another. This would be a good week to spend some time alone, remembering what your own feelings are. Then share them with someone close.

Pisces (Feb. 19th to March 20th): If your two fishes are really tugging in opposite directions this week, Pisces, it is time to remember they are still attached. It is at this point the both of you can agree. Responsibility is not something to run away from. It is something to be loved. Swimming together is so much easier that way.

Aries (March 21st to April 19th): Pretend you are at Cape Kennedy this week, Aries. You are the latest rocket ready for take-off. Don't cool down now. You have all the fuel you need, the fire of your sign is a ready source. Be persistent and stay consistent.

Taurus (April 20th to May 20th): Listening to your intuitions isn't always easy for you, Taurus. But, this week you can benefit if you do. In the coming week, gather all the information you need to see the whole picture and then listen to your gut.

Gemini (May 21st to June 20th): Your natural tendency makes you sometimes appear aloof to others. It isn't that you don't care, it's that insatiable interest in so many things at once. This week, Gemini, is a good time for you to stay focused on the thing that is most important to you. Learn it thoroughly and it will be yours forever.

Cancer (June 21st to July 22nd): Crabs are known for their attention to home, family, and friends. Sometimes you fuss too much. Whether this is a need to give out of love or manipulation of others is yours to determine. This week, Cancer, it would be good to make the right choice.

Leo (July 23rd to Aug. 22nd): You know the old cliché, Leo, "...can't see the forest for the trees." With this in mind, put on your trail boots and get out into the woods. The tree that will make you happy is right in front of you. Go discover it.

Virgo (Aug. 23rd to Sept. 22nd): You need to get your head out of the sand this week, Virgo. Stand up tall and take a good 360-degree look around. Your world is larger than the patch of sand right in front of your eyes. It's time to see what's on the horizon.

Libra (Sept. 23rd to Oct. 22nd): O.K., Libra, it's time for you to get a grip. While vacillation keeps you busy, it doesn't get you anywhere. If you want something, you have to make it happen. If you have too much, only you can weed out the things you no longer need.

Scorpio (Oct. 23rd to Nov. 21st): On this highway we call life, there are many different lanes, Scorpio. Granted, we all go in the same direction, but we're not all at the same spot at the same time. You'd get more out of your associations, if you would accept those around you for where they are rather than from where you are on that road.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22nd to Dec. 21st): The Sign of the Archer is one of three in the zodiac that are considered to be dual in nature. This week, that should be more than evident to you. Make a choice. Are you going to be the one poised to aim high and shoot the arrow or are you going to dig in those hooves and sink into the mud?

Capricorn (Dec. 22nd to Jan. 19th): You possess great powers of logic, common sense, and calculation. You can synthesize, analyze, and get a job done. But, to live life fully, you need more than mechanical abilities. Find the connection to your emotions and let them show. Relationships will be enhanced.

(Editor's note: Dale Platenik of Holyoke has been an astrologer for 19 years, has taught it and related subjects, and works as a counselor in the field. She does individual Astrology charts based on the time, place, and date of birth. Charts can be natal, progressed, for couple's comparison, or used for business. She can be reached at 539-5934.)

Suffield Players Announce Auditions For Their Spring 1999 Musical Revue, "COLE"

Suffield: The Suffield Players will hold auditions for their spring production of the musical revue, "COLE," on Sunday and Monday, February 21st and 22nd from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at historic Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Ave. in Suffield.

Show dates are April 29th, 30th, May 1st, 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, and 22nd. Show tunes include "Night and Day," "I Love Paris," and "I Get a Kick."

For additional information, call 413-567-8422.



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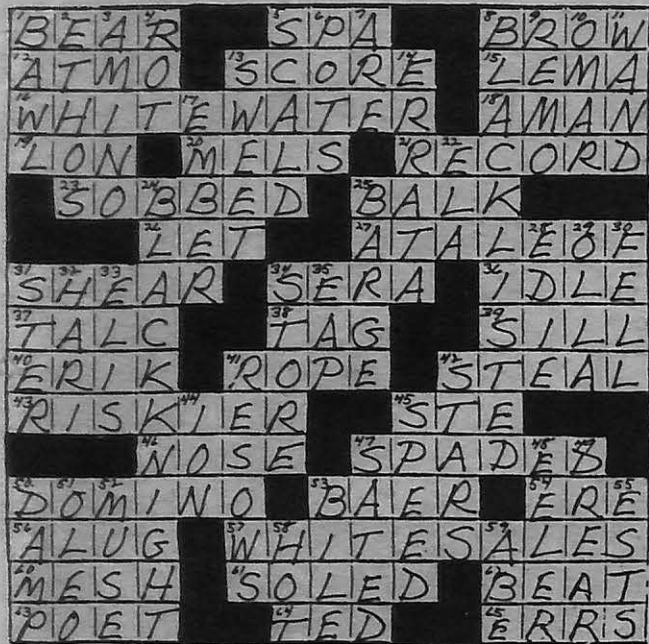
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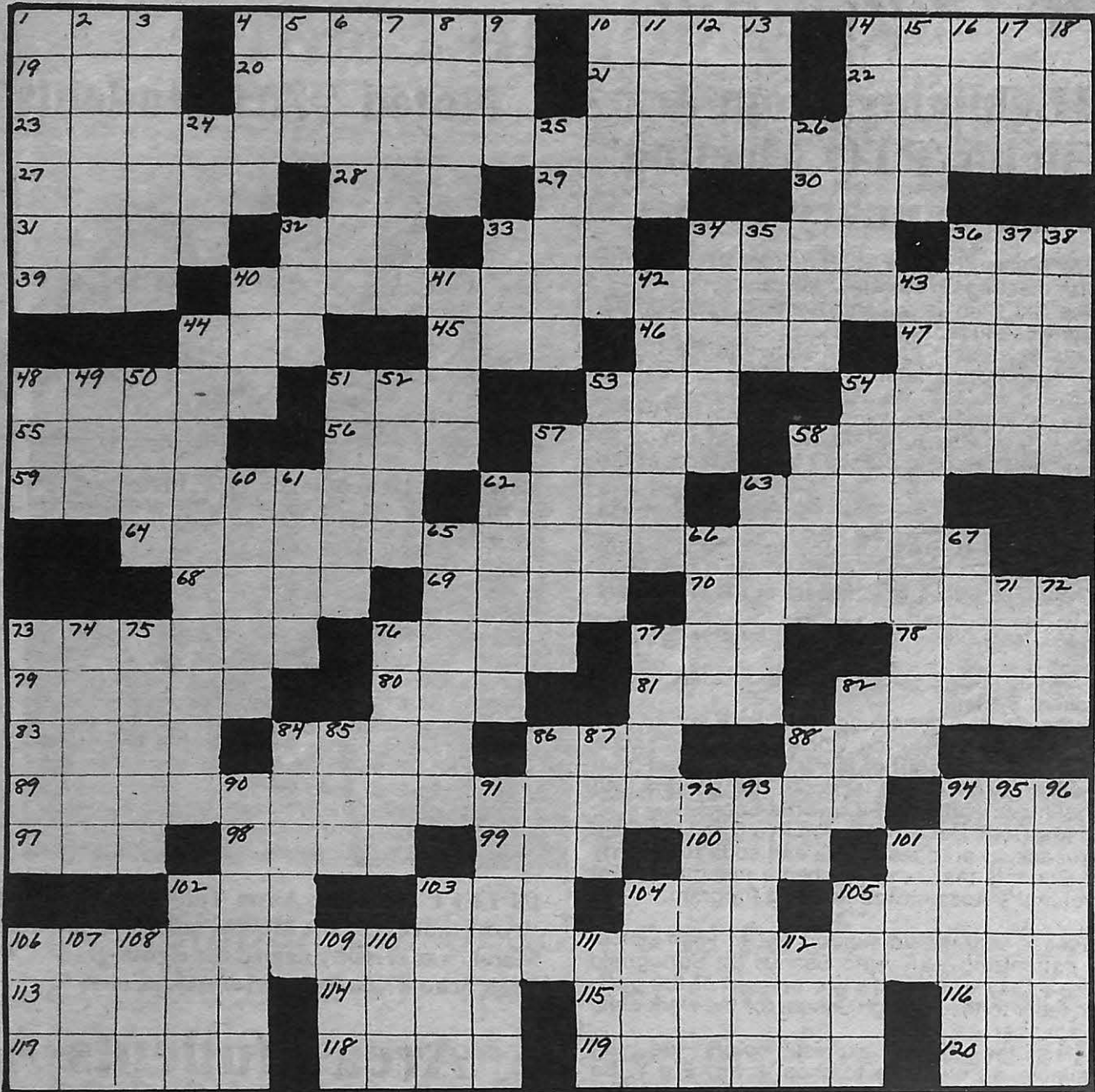
- 1 Plunger
4 Money back offer
10 Container of sorts
14 Stage offering
19 Dined
20 Room sharer (slang)
21 Completed
22 Stormed
23 Dorothy's words in Oz
27 Carries around
28 Collection agency?
29 Neither's partner
30 Possesses
31 Actress Samms
32 Greek letter
33 Japanese admiral
34 Rip up
36 Blocker of "Bonanza"
39 Actress Ruby
40 Pee Wee Reese's song?
44 Formerly named
45 Danger color
46 Against side
47 Fennel
48 Golfer Hubert
51 Depot
53 Small in Dundee
54 Actor George
55 New dollar overseas
56 "Hem and —"
57 Talks (slang)
58 Lotharios
59 Show up again
62 "— or less"
63 Yastrzemski
64 T. Wolfe classic
68 Nose growing actions
69 Arabian Sea gulf
70 Piling up
73 Careless
76 Battery plate
77 Female saint
78 Captain Hook's second in command
79 Ease up
80 Inlet
81 Durocher
82 Athlete's shoe
83 Type of bucks
84 Weaved
86 Health farm
88 Sauce for Peking duck
89 Provide for the family
94 Fen
97 Way to buy stock
98 Gambol
99 Crone
100 "— Francisco"

- 101 Actress Turner
102 Faucet
103 Run up the motor
104 CIA father
105 Sam made 'em long
106 Another way of saying 23 A
113 Squirrel treat
114 English composer
115 Ones who reveal
116 Scottish uncle
117 Tale
118 "— the sweetheart of..."
119 Lost the bridge bid (2 wds.)
120 Thing at law

DOWN

- 1 Squealed (colloq.)
2 "— Alone" (film title)
3 "— In St. Louis"
4 B&M et al
5 Aurora
6 Mackerel relative
7 Without conscience
8 Tout offerings
9 Elongated fish
10 Ameche/Brimley film
11 State
12 Salt (Fr.)
13 Assam silkworm
14 Rainy day weather
15 Stadium cheers
16 In the past
17 Hebrew letter
18 Summer cooler
24 Singer Chris
25 Fed the pot
26 Uniform material
32 Orb
33 "I Like —"
34 Albacore
35 Et al relative
36 Gift receiver
37 Type of acid
38 Tree houses
40 Males
41 Sketch
42 Butt in
43 Innocently
44 Caruso descriptive
48 European nation (abbr.)
49 Regret
50 Pertaining to time
51 Former Irani leaders
52 Poi root
53 Plastic wrap
54 "Star Trek" heavies
57 Used oars
58 Rockfish
60 To balance
61 "— out" (makes do)
62 T.V., radio et al

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



- 63 Big star's small role
65 Iwo invader
66 Social event
67 G&T additive
71 Teachers' org.
72 "I — a kick..."
73 Sly portrayal
74 Critic Roger
75 The "Bulls" Johnson
76 Crabby one
77 Wedge
82 Pro and —
84 Mall components

- 85 Pomeranian for short
86 Close call
87 Cribbage piece
88 "My Favorite —"
90 Like certain wood
91 "— room for improvement"
92 Aver strongly
93 Johnny and family
94 Lighthearted repair-tee
95 ETA on the button
96 Smog contributors

- 101 Gibbon
102 Territory (abbr.)
103 Mr. Descartes
104 Sandusky's state
105 Yesterday
106 Possesses
107 Fall month
108 Pasture sound
109 "The Lady — A Tramp"
110 Charlemagne's empire
111 Child's game
112 Before to a poet

"Meet The Master" is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week - AAN!!!
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LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the appeal of STRATUM LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, which is seeking to alter a previous Board of Appeals Decision, Case No. 1370, dated 4/17/92, which would allow for the commercial use of a structure in a Residential A-2 district, at the premises identified as: 146 SUFFIELD STREET.

Doreen Prouty
Acting Chairperson

Education

Highlights From Jr. High's PTO Meeting Of January 25th

The Agawam Junior High School PTO held its fourth meeting on Monday, January 25th. The Ski Club is up and running with approximately 67 students.

Lots of interest has been shown in the Chess Club from both students and teachers. See Ms. Placzek if you are interested.

We are looking for volunteers to help out at the Book Fair on May 10th-14th, from 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. If you can help out, call Mr. Costanzi at the school.

Five funding requests were discussed, voted on, and all approved.

- The Non-Users Club, to purchase discount Falcons tickets for the February 12th game to be given out as prizes to members of the Non-Users Club.

- Ms. Mary Cincotta, for computer monitor copy clips.

- For use by all staff at the school, dies for the Accucut System.

- Ms. Karen Shugrue and Mr. Jim Ryan, to purchase posters featuring "local celebrities" such as students and staff of the Jr. High created from pictures taken in the school. The posters will show them reading their favorite books.

- Ms. Doris DeLevo, Mr. Jim Ryan, and Ms. Pam Skroback, to purchase pizza and soda for a party for students that have reached a minimum point level in the Accelerated Reading Program.

Please continue to support the Jr. High school by patronizing V&F Auto Service on Springfield Street. They will donate two percent of the parts and labor to the Jr. High School for the work done on your car.

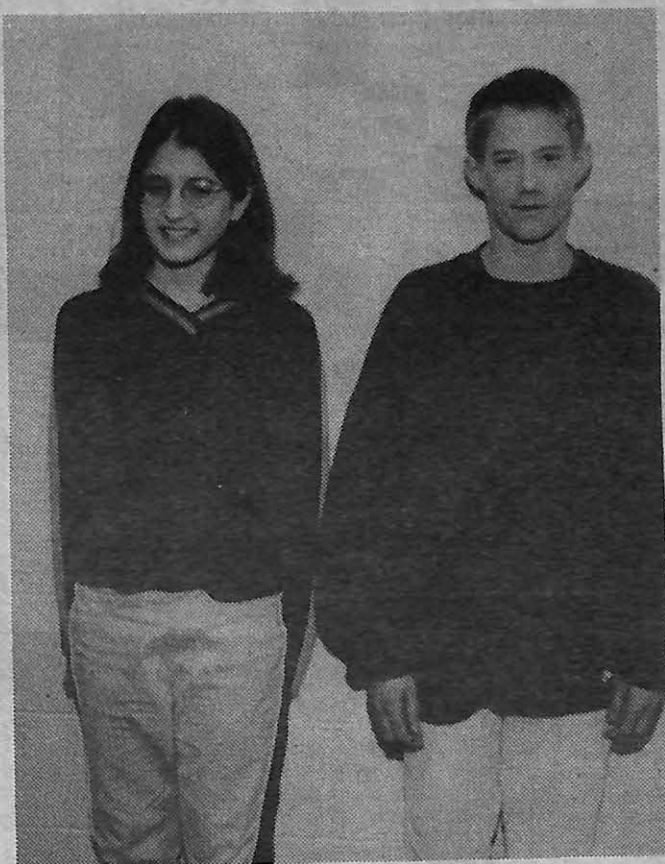
Also, the Big Y express points are still available, so continue to shop at any Big Y. Be sure to tell both businesses you want the Jr. High School to get the credit. Thank you for your support.

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, Feb. 22nd**, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. We will begin planning the staff appreciation breakfast for May and the eighth grade celebration for June.

If you cannot make the meeting but are interested in helping with either, please contact Sue Hamlett at 786-6477.

For all the school-related news in town, you turn our pages each and every week.

Noted "Art Students" At Junior High...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Alissa Tully and Nick Lyman were recently named the seventh-grade "Art Students of the Month" at Agawam Junior High School. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Ashley Marek was recently named the eighth-grade "Art Student of the Month" at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Area Students Attain Fall 1998 Dean List's Standing At RPI

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has announced the names of students who made the Institute's dean's list for the fall semester.

The dean's list recognizes full-time students who maintain grade-point averages of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0 and have no grades below "C."

From Feeding Hills are **Pamela M. Eaton** of 1048 North West St., a sophomore majoring in environmental science; **Ryan D. Henderson** of 33 Tom Street, a senior majoring in civil engineering; **Paul D. Lalli** of 37 White Oaks Dr., a sophomore majoring in computer science; and **Richard**

Skowyr of 853 South West St., a sophomore majoring in biomedical engineering.

Founded in 1824, Rensselaer is the nation's oldest degree-granting technological university. "U.S. News & World Report" has consistently ranked Rensselaer among the top 50 "national" universities in the country, and has consistently listed its graduate engineering program among the top 25.

Rensselaer is an independent, coeducation, nonsectarian university with approximately 4,500 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students.



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Feeding Hills

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Agawam Junior High School's Term 2 HONOR ROLL

GRADE 7

Alexander Alvanos, Brian Athas, Kelly Borkosky, Danielle Borsari, Katherine Bousquet, Amanda Bruno, Tami Burmeister, Lianne Castellanos, Sara Cote, Elizabeth Couture, Aaron D'Amario, Jennifer Depelteau, Erica Dominguez, Neil Donah, Sara Dorans, Maria Doulakis.

Meghan Ennis, Jennifer Epaul, Casey Federico, Marc Ferretti, Michelle Figella, James Franco, Malerie Gardner, Erinn Gormley, Anthony Grasseti, Nicholas Gumlaw, Amanda Hamel, Kyle Henry.

Samantha Howe, Sarah Huffman, Jenna Insero, Amanda Janik, Meghan Kelly, Katie Knodler, Daniel Korney, Jillian Kos, Kyle LaFontaine, Sarah Landry, Amy Lownds, Nicholas Lyman, Michael Lynch, Stephen Lynch, Tory Lyons, Joseph MacFadden.

Katie Malloy, Marc Maloney, Anthony Manzi, Daniel Mason, Kyle McGuire, Christina Metcalf, Kerry Moriarty, Pavlina Moysis, Elizabeth Mundo, Brianne Nicklaw, Katherine O'Connell, Courtney Ober.

Kevin Olbrych, Andrew Oleksak, Jillian Perry, Amy Proulx, Phillip Prouty, Bethany Reid, Brenton Reveruzzi, Christopher Roos, Adam Roy, Anthony Rueli, Jeffrey Sabola, Sara Skolnick, Megan Smith, Kristen Sopet, Holly Stano.

Ryan Sullivan, Paul Surowiec, Emily Sussman, Kasey Toto, Alissa Tully, Jessica Tully, Eva Udobina, Victoria Urrea, Drew Von Maluski, Michael Weinle, Mary Zajac, Douglas Zelisko.

GRADE 8

Daniel Adamski, Kevin Athas, Michael Bachini, Kevin Baptiste, Catherine Baum, Aimee Beaudette, Rebecca Berta, Thomas Bertrand,

David Bienia, Maciej Biskup, Adam Blackak, Ashley Blanchard, Stacy Boisjolie, Frank Bond, Paul Bonini, Kevin Borgatti, Laura Bovat, Sabrina Brizzolari.

Sean P.F. Burke, Lindsay Carey, Alexis Chretien, Christin Cilimberg, Danielle Cirillo, Andrea Conte, Heather Cox, Benjamin Crum, Kelly Curry, Gregory Curtis, Jenine Davignon, Michael Dombrowski, Kelly Doyle, Daniel Drewniak, Suzanne Dudley, Laura Duquette.

Chad Farrington, Michael Ferrigno, Patricia Fitchben, Kevin Fleming, Allyson Gavron, Gunjan Gotra, Angilika Govor, Andrea Greaney, Kevin Grimaldi, Kaitlyn Haglund, Elizabeth Haire, Ian Hamlett, Eric Harris, Christopher Holl, Joel Howe, Scott Howes, Jessica Hudson, Anna Kiforishina.

Irene Klimczak, Christina Knodler, Nathan Krach, Jocelynn Kraus, Nicholas Krolicki, Michael Lalli, Patrick Landers, Sherri Laskowski, Justin Lepard, Alla Lukina, Daveen Macsata, Jeremy Malanson, Christopher Malloy, Ashley Marek, Christopher Martin, Johanna Masotti.

Amanda Maynard, Laura McNeish, Megan Mercadante, Vincent Moretti, Nina Murray, Jillian Nunziato, Ryan Patenaude, Michael Peetros, Jodie Pfau, Courtney Poirier, Julie Pontz, Maureen Quinlan, Kelly Reilly, Laurence Rocke, David Rosenberg, Amanda Rozanski, Victoria Ruhl, Gina Saimeri.

Alfonso Santaniello, Kaitlin Sardella, Jennifer Sharpe, Angeline Simone, Amanda Stork, Benjamin Sunny, Victoria Taylor, Brittany Theriaque, Sebastian Verelst, Cori Verteramo, Patrick Walsh, Cylyn Williams, Tara Witte, Andrew Wynne, Ryan Zaczynski, Laura Zerra.



CHRISTINA M. JANUSKA

Christina M. Januska Named To Dean's List At Elms College

Christina M. Januska, daughter of Richard & Lise Januska of Feeding Hills, was named to the Elms College Dean's List for the 1998 fall semester with a 3.73 grade point average.

A 1998 graduate of Agawam High School, she is a freshman majoring in nursing.

Best local news...

Remember, our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

* * * * *



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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 22nd: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, dipping sauce or honey, seasoned diced carrots, bread and butter, cherry crisp, milk.

Tuesday, February 23rd: Steamed frankfurt in roll, Boston baked beans, oven potato rounds with catsup, chilled diced pears, milk.

Wednesday, February 24th: Rotini with meat sauce, seasoned green beans, Italian bread and butter, chilled peaches in syrup or strawberry jello with topping, milk.

Thursday, February 25th: Chicken and rice soup, toasted bologna and cheese sandwich in roll, oven french fries with catsup, blueberry crisp, milk.

Friday, February 26th: Meatball sandwich in roll with tomato sauce, seasoned chuck wagon corn, cinnamon apple sauce, orange jello with topping, milk.

Local Students Named To Honor Roll At Cathedral High

Following is a list of area students named to the Cathedral High School honor roll.

From Agawam: Brian Landry, Megan Landry, Monica Moriarty, Eric Powell, Kelli Powell, Meredith Willett.

From Feeding Hills: Kyle Bousquet, Shabnam Kafi, Michael Martin, Jr.

Nicole Brittain On Dean's List At Roger Williams University

Nicole Brittain of Feeding Hills, currently enrolled at Roger Williams University, was named to the Dean's List for the 1998 fall semester.

A senior at Roger Williams, Nicole is majoring in marine biology. She is the daughter of Peter & Gail Brittain of Feeding Hills.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 25, 1999 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Premier Parks for work to be performed at Riverside Park, Main Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: February 18, 1999

Agawam High School's Term 2 HONOR ROLL

CLASS OF 1999

Jillian Abdow, Jessica Bardsley, Michelle Beaudette, Pia Bertone-Gross, Erik Bodurtha, Franca Bonavita, Kimberly Bosini, Danielle Bourdeau, Rebecca Brames, Jessica Lynn Briotta, Joni Beth Brodeur, Andrew Charko, Heather Cincotta, Andrea Cizek, Melissa Cote, Melissa Crough, Elizabeth Curry, Melissa Danyow.

Michael Defilipi, Danielle Deforge, Charles Denison, Ann Marie Dimauro, Eva Donnerhack, Charlene Duquette, Jason Fiore, Jason Flood, Angela Gontczaruk, Jason Grimaldi, Erin Hanley, Brian Howes, Heather Marie Hughes, Alison Jackobek, Gregory Jubinville, Nina Konig, Anthony Kosinski, Justin Kratovil.

Paul LaBarre, Sean Lavin, Robert Liard, Jennifer Loomis, Ondrej Lukes, Yuri Lukin, Nicole Macey, Barbara Maloni, Martha Manning, Diana Marsh, Jennifer McGuire, April McLain, Jessica Montagna, Leila Mouneimneh, Kornelia Moysis, Shequela Mungin, Sarah Nacewicz, Jennifer Niedziela, Mathieu Perry, Amanda Peters.

William Pierson, Roberta Przybyla, Patrick Renana, Nikita Reshamwala, Crystal Rivers, Anthony Romano, Brian Rondeau, Shelley Rose, Christopher Rousseau, Sarah Ryder, Mario Santillo, Thomas Shibley, Alicyn Siano, Aaron Skowrya, Jennifer Stacy, Sara Stevenson, David Strole, Marie Svadeba, Emily Tampone, Laura Tenerowicz, David Thomas, Kara Tierney, Allison Willett, Melissa Williams, Patricia Zerra.

CLASS OF 2000

Stephen Antaya, Heidi Baran, Sheri Benton, Shawn Biebel, James Borowiec, Neil Butler, Nicole Chapman, Laura Charest, Tracy Ciak, Terri Cima, Elizabeth Coelho, Valerie Cross, Dianna DiStefano, Mary-Elizabeth Dupelle, Stephen Ferreira, Christine Gallant, Amanda Galluzzo.

Julie Gazar, Pamela Gervais, Nicole Ghaname, Brian Gilhooly, Anthony Goodrow, Kimberly Goss, Irina Govor, Scott Harris, Jennifer Harvey, Eric Hoague, Adam Howe, Nicole Koehler, Lauren Kunkler, Ket La, Kaila Larivee, Patrick Lennon, Jennifer Lyman, Eric Mancini, Mary Manning.

John Marcotte, Kerry McGeoghan, Stephanie McLane, Ryan Morgan, Jessica Nelson, Aja Paquette, John Pearson, Crystal Place, Andrea Prova, Laura Reveruzzi, Gabrielle Robinson, Paul Sawyer, Tiffany Scaife, Caroline Scherpa, Katherine Shannon, Matthew Sharpe, Jason Swindle, Matthew Taylor, Caitlin Weisgerber, Nicole White, Krysten Zarr.

CLASS OF 2001

Nathan Adamski, Anthony Albro, Danielle Bachini, Maria Bakhareva, Lisa Bienia, Tiffany Blackman, Michelle Blanchard, Jenna Bodurtha,

March 2nd Mtg. To Discuss NYC Trip

The final planning meeting for students who are going on the New York/Washington DC/Philadelphia trip during school vacation is planned for **Tuesday, March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the Agawam Middle School cafeteria.**

All the travelers and their parents should attend this meeting. Final arrangements and decisions need to be made in regards to rooming, meal choices, hat color, etc.

Information on what to expect and what you should pack will also be discussed.

Candy money and final payments are due this month. If you have any questions regarding amounts owed, just give me a call at 786-9896 in the evening.

Amanda Boissonneault, Nicholas Brown, Corinne Butova, William Campana, Gina Castellanos, Bianca Chase, Timothy Chretien, J.M. Circosta-Aspinall, Elizabeth Clark, Keegan Clark, Timothy Corlett, Shannon Costa.

Heather Crescentini, Lauren Deluca, Robert Doane, Nicole Dominick, Peter Drewniak, Adam Ellsworth, Corey Federico, Michael Federico, Tara Feeley, Scott Fleming, Jessica Forni, Jill Gendron, Gina Goralczyk, Sara Gregory, Ashley Guiel, Stephanie Gumlaw, Ryan Hanley, Corey Hobbs, Eric Hogan, James Ingari, Amy Jensen, Janet Jock, Laruen Kida.

Maxim Kizilov, Stephanie Knodler, Bryan Lavin, Jesus Ledesma, Ryan Lepard, Ashlee Lorraine, Adrienne Major, A.J. Martucci, Elizabeth Maynard, Kelly McNeish, Jennifer Mercadante, Steven Messina, Rachel Morris, Rebecca Nacewicz, Daniel Nascimbeni, Ellen Nasiatka, Emily Norris, Kaitlin O'Brien.

Jennifer Plamondon, Kacy Progulske, Timothy Ranstrom, Amy Richards, Joseph Rosinski, Melinda Russo, Jamie Santos, Danielle Sienkiewicz, Michael Skala, Joanna Surowiec, Michael Thomas, Jessica Vecelli, James Wisniewski, Robert Zajac.

CLASS OF 2002

Kristin Berry, Eric Bland, Thomas Boisjolie, Jr., Jamie Borkosky, Amanda Brown, Michael Carmody, Geoffrey Cartello, Kelly Cassidy, Matthew Couture, Renee Couture, Adam D'Amario, Danya Decoteau, Kathleen Demetron, Eliza Dickmann, Caira Dominguez, Kara Dominick, Scott Drenzek.

Katie Dubay, Ronald Dutton, Kyleigh Egan, Kathryn Feato, Bryan Ghedi, Kara Gilhooly, Hilary Golas, Alyssa Goodrow, Elizabeth Gottardi, Joanna Graveline, Sarah Hamel, Eric Hastings, Christine Jack, Erin Jackson, Craig Jendza, Nicole Jensen, Melissa Jubinville, Jennifer Jutte, Michael Kelly.

Sakhonh Kheumun, Melissa King, Brian Knight, Joseph Kocot, Kimberly Landry, Jacqueline Legrand, Sarah Leydon, Matthew Ligenza, John Lynch, Kristin Mantolesky, Denis Marchetto, Desiree Marsili, Matthew McGrath, Brian McGuire, William Menard, Brian Michel, Kristina Midura, Adrian Misiak, Tabatha Monfemorra, Stephen Mascimbeni, Jessica Newalu, Alyson Nowell, Courtney Nowill, Jennifer Orenstein, Elizabeth Perry, Justin Robichaud, April Rondeau.

Jessica Roy, Christopher Seymour, Jenna Shea, Danny Silva, Maureen Skehan, Alyson Skok, Stephanie Smith, Julia Spear, Adam Stacy, Adam Tapply, Steven Turner, Danielle Welner, Krista Wheeler, Ryan Witherell, Lucy Young.

Agawam Jr. High PTO To Meet On Feb. 22nd

The Agawam Junior High School PTO will hold its next meeting on Monday, February 22nd at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

All interested parents and teachers are invited to attend. Subsequent meetings will be held on the last Monday of the month.

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Ag. Middle School's Term 2 HONOR ROLL

GRADE 6

Heather Albano, Joseph Albano, Catherine Andrews, Joseph B'Shara, Jeffrey Berselli, William Bertrand, Christopher Berube, Kevin Blenia, Stacy Boisvert, Barbara Brizzolari, Corinne Cardin, Christine Cassidy, Corey Chrusciel, Kevin Clark, Leah Cook.

Adam Corbin, Daniel Cosgrove, Kristina Craaybeek, Nicholas Crescentini, Jamie Cullen, Deborah D'Amours, Elise Davilli, Erik Deliefde, Joseph DeLuca, John DeLucchi, Nicholas Demetron, Gregory Donaldson, Alex Ellsworth, Michele Elsner, Caleigh Ferguson, Kelly Follis, Joseph Fortunato, Bethany Garvin, Jaclyn Geaghan, Gina Gessay, Nadim Ghaname, Jonathan Gibbons.

Danielle Glantz, Meredith Golbach, Emily Gordon, Katie Gorman, Karyn Gottardi, Mary Lou Gottardi, Cole Gridley, Jeannine Hastings, Kristan Heaton, Daniel Higgins, Alexandra Ivey, Nicholas Jacks, Sonja Jedziniak, Susan Jenney, Stephanie Klebes, Joseph Koehler, Susan Krapf, Kristen LaLiberte, Bryan Lane, Zachary Laponese.

James Lewin, Nathan Little, Sara Mantha, Tiffany Manzi, Rachel Mason, Jenelle Masotti, Amanda McCabe, Joseph McCarthy, Joseph McGeoghan, Christopher McKenney, Seamus Moran, Ashley Morris, Theodore Moysis, Daniel Murphy, Sophia Nasti, Eric Niedziela, Jaclyn O'Neill.

Amy Osgood, Kaylie Paquette, Kirsten Patrick, Lauren Peltier, Kevin Pender, Nicholas Petrangelo, Kristen Pfau, Jessica Phillips, Meagan Pokorny, Eric Reiprich, Heather Rennell, Jennifer Rider, Jennifer Sacco, Matthew Sadowski, Maria Santaniello, Kurt Schebel, Noelle Serafino.

Scott Settembro, Alex Shibley, Emily Siedlik, Anthony Sotolotto, Abriana Spagnoli, Alison Stanton, Ami Sullivan, Kelli Sullivan, Vanessa Tencati, Scott Thomas, Michael Thompson, Michael Toto, Erica Troy, Jeffrey Walker, Ryan Walsh, Julie Wills, David Zaffetti, Alyssa Zmaczynski.

GRADE 5

Corey Arbelaez, Anastasia Aversa, Angelina Barbarisi, Thomas Barnes, Justin Belden, Alexandra Bertagnolli, Crystal Bianco, Michael Blanchard, Christopher Blanchette, Kaitlyn Bonnevill, Christina Borgatti, Gabrielle Brown, Sarah Bulmer, Brian Burke, Cameron Butova, Emily Cassidy, Justin Chretien, Sierra Close, Brian Costello, Laura Cote, Alycia Cove.

Jonathan Crothers, Chantel Cuddemi, Alison Dassatti, Christina Davis, Lauren Davis, Andrea Desrosiers, Nicholas DiMaio, Matthew Draghetti, Alexis Dumas, Ucie Ejesi, Brendan Ennis, Michelle Epaul, Nicole Frazier, Cassie Freeman, Alexander Friedrich, Gregory Gay, Tiara Ghedi, Sophie Gould, Christina Graziano, Aaron Hibbert.

Alicia Holl, Daniel Houle, Justin Howe, Heather Kauffman, Kristopher Kelly, Faith King, Elizabeth Klimczak, Ryan Kocot, Johannah Kos, Alexandra Kozak, Kelse LaPlante, Lindsie Lavin, Monica Lefebvre, Jessica Legein, Morgan Leos, John Leydon, Michael Longhi, Peter Longhi, Nicholas Lovotti, Sarah MacFadzen, Michelle Macey, Kari Mareno.

Zachary Matys, Joseph McDyer, Jonathan McGeoghan, Emil Nasti, Jonathan O'Brien, Jason Olbrych, Matthew Oleksak, Michael Ott, Alison Pariseau, Christin Peters, Justin Pitoniak, Steven Powers, Erika Prouty, Laura Provost, Caitlin Rangstrom, Kala Reid, Joseph Reutt, Nathan Rheault, Kevin Roberts, Paige Roberts, Carlo Ronca, Steven Rosinski.

Devin Ryan, Matthew Sabola, Shawn Santos, Katelynn Springer, David St. John, Matthew Styckiewicz, Caitlin Sullivan, Erica Sullivan, Lauren Surprenant, Ashley Toyfair, Michael Uzar, James Valenti, Edward Waller, Julie Warchol, Alexandra Watt, Mari Weinandy, Ashley Weisse, Matthew Werther, Katelyn Yelinek.

St. Thomas School Slates Fundraising Auction For Mar. 12th

The St. Thomas School P.T.O. in West Springfield is having a fundraising auction on March 12th (snow date: March 13th). Admission is \$2, which includes a wine and cheese preview from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Over 100 donated items will be auctioned off, including a ½ ct.tw. diamond earrings from Hanoosh Jewelers, autographed sports memorabilia, collectibles, restaurant, and golf certificates.

There's something for everyone. **Adults only, please.** The auction will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Thomas School Gymnasium. Cash and checks only.



BRIAN M. RONDEAU

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Brian M. Rondeau To Attend RIT This Coming Fall

Brian Matthew Rondeau, son of Debra Cloutier of 44 Hamilton Circle, Feeding Hills, and Gary Rondeau of Darlington, South Carolina, has enrolled for fall 1999 admission at Rochester (New York) Institute of Technology.

Rondeau, the recipient of an RIT Presidential Scholarship, will major in computer engineering in RIT's College of Engineering. He will be a June 1999 Agawam High School graduate.

Internationally recognized as a leader in imaging, technology, fine and applied arts, and education of the deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology enrolls 13,000 full- and part-time students in more than 230 career-oriented and professional programs. Many are unique and enjoy worldwide recognition. RIT's cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation.

For the past decade, *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked RIT as one of the nation's leading comprehensive universities. RIT is also included in *Yahoo Internet Life's Top 100 Wired Universities*, *Fisk's Guide to America's Best Colleges*, as well as *Barron's Best Buys in Education*.

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'Strategies For Funding Children's Education' At Agawam Library

An educational seminar titled "Strategies for Funding Your Children's Education" will take place on Tuesday, February 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

This seminar will be presented by Sue Alvanos, Personal Financial Advisor, Charlie Alvanos, CFP, Senior Financial Advisor, and American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. The guest speaker will be Steve Duval, CFP, District Manager.

This fast-paced, 60-minute seminar will include critical information about:

- * What financial aid options are available.
- * Creative college funding strategies.
- * The most effective investment strategies for increasing your savings and your eligibility for financial aid.
- * How to estimate the cost of sending your children to the college of their choice.
- * And much more...

You'll receive a complimentary workbook with worksheets and information to help you understand your current financial situation, what it will take to reach your educational goal, and the various funding options available.

To make reservations, call Sue Alvanos at 534-3883, ext. 225. Seating is limited, so please respond promptly!

Weekly Bulletin From AHS Guidance Dept.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information or an application.

Community Theater Association Scholarship: Open to graduating high school seniors who plan to pursue a major in one of the theatrical arts. Deadline: March 1, 1999.

National Association of Insurance Women of Greater Springfield Scholarship: Eight \$500 scholarships will be awarded to individuals who are continuing their education in any field of study. Deadline: April 1, 1999.

Springfield Garden Club Scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students who are, or who plan to be, in an environmental studies program. These scholarships are available to students who major in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, botany, agronomy, and related subjects. Applicants should have at least a B average and be residents of Hampden County. Deadline: April 15, 1999.

SENIORS: Remember the Scholarship Fair will be held Tuesday, March 9th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Representatives from local organizations will be present to distribute local scholarship applications. More information will be provided at a later date.

From Agawam High Guidance Department...

Will The Rubber Band Break???

by Judy Cohen
AHS Guidance Counselor

That time of year is here ... report cards. Half of the year is finished and the grades after the two terms reflect how much your son or daughter has learned.

Some of you will be happy to see that there has been marked improvement; some will definitely be chagrined to see a marked decline. Whatever your reaction, do keep the lines of communication open with your child and share your feelings and listen to your child's feelings.

Yes, listen ... that's the key. And that's just what I have been doing all morning. The responses have been revealing. When I have spoken to kids about their grades, often I found that the kids' rubber band is about to break. They have been trying to do a million things at one time and have been pushed to the limit. Indeed, they have spread themselves so thin that things are beginning to snap. Let's take Joe as an example.

He came into my office, holding his pass in his hand. He sat down with his head hanging low. Clearly, he wished to avoid any eye contact. Fidgeting in his seat, and twirling the pass in his hands, Joe was an agitated young man. And he had good reason; his grades had plummeted! Not just one grade, but all his grades!

"So, Joe," I began, "Your grades were not too good this term. Something must be going on. Let's discuss it."

He slowly raised his head, but just kind of looked at me and then said, "Nah, I guess I just didn't study enough." Well, I wasn't satisfied with that answer. I wanted the reason why he hadn't been able to study enough; so being a persistent person, I pressed further. With several pointed questions from me, I was able to start receiving some responses from Joe.

It seemed that he had been doing a lot. In addition to participating on a sports team, working out

to keep his body in shape for the sport, and working on the weekends to get some spending money, he was also busy taking care of his younger brother, driving places for his mom, and helping to keep the house together.

His parents were divorced. Dad was no longer around and Mom was trying to make both ends meet by working two jobs. To say that Joe's rubber band was being stretched is an understatement. The poor kid felt he had to pick up the slack for Mom, yet he didn't want to give up anything else in the process. The result ... the grades we were both now seeing.

I listened to Joe go on for a bit. Then, I took a rubber band out of my drawer. I told him that the rubber band stood for him. Then, I had him take one end and I took the other end. I told him to pull on his end and I would pull on my end. By pulling, we were representing all the things that he is doing that are pulling him in all different directions. Well, you guessed it, the rubber band snapped!! Of course, then I stopped and asked him what he thought that meant. I wanted the understanding to come from him; in that way, he would recognize his problem and own it. And that's exactly what happened. He realized that he could only do so much. When he did too much, he would be stretched beyond his limit.

I told him to go home, write down all the things he has been doing, and prioritize them. Then, both of us would look at the list and decide what he had to continue doing and what he would have to stop doing. From this exercise, Joe would be able to clearly see what had to be done.

This term has just begun, so it is too early to tell what impact our meetings have had, yet I am hopeful that positive change will result. I am hopeful that the rubber band will be kept in tact, since now it will no longer be stretched beyond its limit.

AHS To Host Prog. On Advanced Placement And Honors Courses

On Monday, February 22nd, information will be presented by the Academic Coordinators and teachers of Agawam High School on Advanced Placement and other honors courses at Agawam High School. The presentation will be held in the high school cafeteria from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The purpose of the presentation is to help 10th-, 11th-, and 12th-grade students and their parents or guardians to make more informed decisions prior to the selection of Advanced Placement or other honors courses.

Read the AAN!!!

Local Students On Honor Roll At St. Mary's School

The following local students have been named to the honor roll for the second quarter at St. Mary's School in Longmeadow.

Karen Prisby (Grade 8, High Honors); **Angela DeCosmo** (Grade 8, Honors); **Rebecca Dempsey** (Grade 7, Honors); **Thomas DeCosmo** (Grade 6, High Honors); **Jillian Joyce**, **Jacqueline Svadeba** (Grade 6, Honors); **Michael Prisby** (Grade 5, High Honors); **Cathryn Joyce** (Grade 5, Honors); **Brielle Beaudette** (Grade 4, High Honors).

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SAFE KIDS Coalition Offers The Following Tips For Winter Activities

According to Shirley LaRoche, R.N., coordinator of the Western Mass. SAFE KIDS Coalition headquartered at Baystate Medical Center Children's Hospital in Springfield, parents and caregivers should inspect equipment and the environment for possible hazards before children engage in winter activities such as sledding, ice skating, and skiing. Remind children not to push, shove, or roughhouse while engaging in sports.

ICE SKATING

Allow children to skate only on approved surfaces. Check for signs posted by local police or recreation departments, or call your local police or recreation department to find out which areas have been approved.

Children should be taught to:

- Skate in the same direction as the crowd.
- Avoid darting across the ice.
- Never skate alone.
- Never go out on ice that an adult has not approved.

• Throw away chewing gum or candy before skating onto the ice.

If a child falls through the ice, he or she should stretch their arms over the ice and kick as if swimming, in an attempt to crawl back onto the solid ice.

SLEDDING

Parents and caregivers should look for:

- Terrain that is free of obstacles and far from

traffic. Children should sled on packed snow (not ice) that is free of debris. Check carefully for snow-covered hazards such as rocks, tree limbs, and stumps that could endanger sledders or skiers.

- Sturdy and safe construction of equipment. Avoid equipment with sharp and jagged edges.
- Energy-absorbing pads on sled seats.
- Secure handholds on sleds.
- Easy steering, non-jamming mechanisms on sleds and toboggans.

- Gently-sloping terrain.

Parents should remind children to:

- Sled only on terrain that is free of obstacles.
- Make sure the bottom of the slope is far from streets and traffic.
- Always use a sled with a steering mechanism.

Avoid makeshift sleds.

- Avoid lying flat on the sled while riding downhill. Always sit up with feet forward — lying flat increases the chance of head and abdominal injuries.

- Never ride in a sled that is being pulled by a motorized vehicle.

- Make sure the number of children riding on the sled does not exceed the manufacturer's recommendation.

SNOW SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

With a few safety precautions, skiing is a sport that even young children can enjoy. Parents

should make sure children follow these suggested precautions:

- Enroll in at least one skiing lesson to start off on the right track.
- Use caution when entering and exiting the ski lift.

- Do not ski out of control or go too fast.
- Be aware of other people on the slope.
- Wear eye protection.
- Wear sun protection even on cloudy days.
- Never ski alone. Young children should always be supervised by an adult.

SNOWMOBILING

Snowmobiles can weigh up to 600 pounds and travel at speeds in excess of 90 mph. Head injuries are the leading cause of snowmobile-related deaths. In 1996, more than 1,300 children ages five to 14 were treated in emergency rooms for snowmobile-related injuries.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that operating snowmobiles is inappropriate for children under age 16. If a child is riding as a passenger on a snowmobile, be sure he/she is wearing an approved helmet.

"When properly prepared, your child's 'winter wonderland' can be a safe and fun-filled adventure," said LaRoche.

For more information on child safety, call LaRoche at 794-5434.

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Sports

Ludlow Takes The Title...

Brownie Wrestlers Miss WMass. Title By Half A Point

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

As you know, we like to use cliches whenever we can because it's easier than trying to make up witty ones of our own.

So, we'll use this timeworn ditty to explain Agawam High's fate at last weekend's Western Mass. Division I Wrestling Tournament.

"When the one great scorer comes to write against your name, he marks not that you won or lost, but how you played the game."

Agawam, the defending WMass. champions and winners of the title for 11 of the past 12 season, played the game very well indeed. Unfortunately for the champs, Ludlow High played it better (barely) to the tune of one-half of a point, beating the Brownies 221½ to 221 and the rest of the field by a wide margin.

Of course, winning does count; that's why they keep score. And it was a sweet one for the Lions — their first-ever Western Mass. title after years of effort.

For the Brownies (not used to being bridesmaids), it was a bittersweet experience, seeing that another title would have been a fitting capstone to the brilliant 25-year career enjoyed by retiring Coach Phil Tomkiel.

Things certainly looked positive for Agawam going into the championships. In 10 of the 14 weight classes, they had a wrestler among the top four seedings, included three top seeds, **Eric Hogan** (103's), **Dave Moore** (112's), and **Adam Blair** (152's). **Mark Engleman** and **Scott Murphy** were also sitting pretty, with second seeds in the 145's and 160's, respectively.

Aaron Gilbert (125's), **Ryan Gamache** (130's), **Chris Wayte** (135's), **John Weinle** (171's), and **Justin Petrangelo** (189's) were fourth seeds. **Rob Creanza** was fifth in the 119's; **Brian Chechile**, eighth in the 140's; **Brian Pederson**, 12th in the 215's; and **Eric Pedersen**, 16th in the 275's, rounded out the Brownie field.

Hogan got to the semis on a first-round bye and a pin of Longmeadow's Dan Shapiro just 45 seconds into the second period. Moore, an All-Western Mass. performer, also had a first-round bye and a pin of Ludlow's Derek Rodriguez at 1:51 of the first period to gain the semis. Gilbert got there with a pin 46 seconds into the second period over number two 125 seed, Jess Kory of Westfield, and a 10-4 win against Ludlow's Felepe Barroso.

Engleman, against Brownie All-Western Mass. performer, made it by way of a first-round bye and a pin at 1:22 over Westfield's Steve Bailey. All-Western Mass. standout Adam Blair pinned his way into the semis — 1:12 against Pittsfield's Mike Morin and 5:25 versus Brenden Humphries of East Longmeadow.

Scott Murphy beat Longmeadow's Bob Chew and Westfield's Tony Naro with a pin (2:49) to move on. Petrangelo also made the semis on a first-round bye and a 15-7 win over East Longmeadow's Chris Mancini.

Five Brownies In The Finals...

Five of the seven semi-final Brownies made it to the finals. Hogan did it with a 3-0 win in the 103's over Ludlow's Dan Sanders (number two seed). Moore pinned Mike Katz of East Longmeadow, the fifth seed. Moore, ahead 2-0 and in control, got the fall with 38 seconds gone in the first period.

Engleman went up 4-0 early in his match against number three Anthony Verdie of East Longmeadow. Engleman led by that score going into the third period and won, 8-1. Blair locked up with Ludlow's Rob Vice (number four). Blair had a 2-1 lead after one period. Blair had a pin opportunity 29 seconds into the middle period and led, 4-1. Blair got two more on a takedown in the third period and went on to win, 4-2.

Petrangelo had a keeper in the 189's. He battled third-seeded Waldemar Jimenez of Central to a 1-1 tie after three periods. The big guy won it, 3-1 in overtime, on a takedown to gain a spot in the finals.

Two Brownies didn't quite make it. Gilbert lost to top-seeded (125) Drew Penna of Minnechaug, 12-5. Murphy fell to West Side's Blake Bryan, the third seed (160), 8-5.



MEMBERS OF THIS YEAR'S Agawam High School wrestling team. BACK ROW: Pat Ren-na, Scott Murphy, Tom Shibley, and Josh Miner. FRONT ROW: Ryan Gamache, Rob Creanza, Adam Blair, Mark Engleman, Chris Wayte, Justin Petrangelo, and John Weinle.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

The finals saw Agawam go in leading the pack with 203 points. Ludlow was right there at 201½. West Side brought up the rest of the pack with a 168½ score.

Hogan met Sini Meak to start things off. Meak, the number two seed in the 103's, was quick and aggressive. Both did a lot of hand-fighting in the first period. Hogan came away with a 2-0 lead on a takedown as time ran out. Meak managed to gain control to start the second and ended up riding Hogan, who had to crawl doggedly (with Meak on his back) for the out-of-bounds stripe on more than one occasion. A Hogan escape with 41 seconds left saw him take a 3-0 lead into the third period.

Hogan managed some control and began to ride Meak, prompting the Cyber-Cat to drag himself out of bounds. There were 24 seconds to go when Meak managed an escape for a point, but could do no better than that. Hogan came away with a 3-1 victory.

Moore Named Outstanding Wrestler

If you blinked in the 112's, you might have missed Dave Moore's win. The Agawam junior, a winner last year in the 103's, grabbed his opponent, second-seeded Shareef Jacobs of Central, with 30 seconds gone in the first period, picked him up, and slammed him to the mat, pinning the fallen Eagle with 41 seconds gone. For his efforts - three straight pinfalls in three straight matches - Moore was named the tournament's outstanding wrestler.

Engleman took on Amherst's Nkosi Sharpe (the top seed in the 145's). Both wrestlers spent much of the first period sizing each other up. Thus, there was not much action, which was reflected in a 0-0 score entering the second period. Sharpe gained control early, but Engleman executed an escape for a point at the 1:10 mark. He held the 1-0 lead into the third. The Brownie gained quick control to start the final two minutes. A takedown game him two more points. Engleman ended up winning, 4-0.

Blair, a winner last year in the 152's, had a tougher time in his match. He met second-seeded Mike Frank of West Springfield. Frank is also an All-Western Mass. selection and was a winner at 140 pounds in last year's tournament. They are no strangers on the mat, having met many times in the past.

The first period was mainly defensive for both and ended up 0-0. Frank got the advantage early in the second period, but a reverse by Blair landed the Brownie two points. Frank executed an escape with 44 seconds left to make it 2-1. There were 18 seconds to go when Blair managed a takedown and led, 4-1, going into the third period. The Terrier got into trouble early, with Blair gaining the advantage.

Frank, knowing Blair's moves, managed an escape, narrowing the score to 4-2, Agawam, with 10 seconds gone. Blair came back with a takedown and two points, making it 6-2, Agawam, with 1:07 left. Frank got a point back on an escape with 45 seconds to go. Then Blair, treating the Ter-

rier with respect, was called twice for stalling, giving up two points. But it didn't matter. The Brownie came away with a 6-5 win for his second straight Western Mass. crown.

Agawam was wrestling well and taking care of business. But Ludlow, who had also placed five kids in the finals, was doing some business of its own. They won in the 135's (which set up their eventual title), the 171's (pin), and their second seed in the 189's, Dmitri Privedenyuk, was about to meet Justin Petrangelo. The last time the two met was in the final regular season meet for both teams. Privedenyuk pinned Justin with 53 seconds left in the first period. The Brownie had something to prove in this one, but it was not to be. The Lion won, but not like he'd done the first time out.

Privedenyuk started by grabbing Petrangelo's leg in an attempt to flip him to the mat. Petrangelo got out of that hold but got taken down. Privedenyuk let 3-1 after the first period. An escape, a takedown, and a near fall gave the Lion an 8-0 lead with a minute gone in the second. Then Petrangelo saw his opportunity and took it. He got two on a takedown and also managed to spin into a position to pin Privedenyuk. For 20 seconds or more, he tried, but the Lion kept squirming out of the pin, finally flipping onto his back. The near fall picked up three more for Petrangelo and he was down only 8-5 going into the third period. Justin again seemed to be in control.

Running On Pure Adrenaline...

But by then, he was running on pure adrenaline and he was obviously exhausted. Privedenyuk managed to execute a reverse with seconds left and won 10-5. It was a tremendous effort by Petrangelo, who had to be carried off the mat at the finish of the match.

The competitive part of the meet was over for Agawam. They could only wait. Ludlow won everything on a pin in the 215's.

The consolation rounds (for third place) saw some Brownie successes. Sophomore Aaron Gilbert, a rising star, beat the third seed in the 119's, Cathedral's Greg Matthews, 2-1 in a defensive battle. The 160's third place went to Agawam senior Scott Murphy, who beat the fourth-seeded Dennis Alves of Minnechaug, 7-4.

Perhaps the dark horse story of the tournament went to Agawam heavyweight Eric Pedersen. He was the 16th and last seed in the 275's but went all the way to the consolation final, convincingly beating second-seeded Justin Campbell of Minnechaug, 13-2.

Later, the five who made it to the finals all said how badly they wanted to win this one for Tomkiel.

But it isn't quite over. Some of the Brownies will take part in the State Meet to be held this weekend at Cathedral. Participating will be **Eric Hogan** (103's), **Dave Moore** (112's), **Marc Engleman** (145's), and **Adam Blair** (152's). All are seeded third in their respective weight classes. And Tomkiel will be beside the mat with them for the final time in his career.

Good luck to the Brownie wrestlers at the State Meet this weekend at Cathedral...



SENIOR CLASS MEMBERS of the Agawam High girls' varsity basketball team for 1998-1999 - from left - Melissa Cote, Barbara Maloni, Pia Bertone-Gross, and Kara Tierney.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MEMBERS OF THE 1998-1999 Agawam High girls' varsity basketball team. Back row, from left - Barbara Maloni, Pia Bertone-Gross, Melissa Cote, Kara Tierney, and Coach Lou Conte. Front row - Laura Bucalo, Sheri Benton, Elizabeth Stieg, Jill Gendron, Katie Shannon, and Jen Lyman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Brownie Girls Lose First Game This Season...

Lancers Spoil The Party As AHS Upset Over In Longmeadow, 55-50

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

They lurk around every corner in the world of athletics — those teams with upset foremost on their minds. Agawam High found one Tuesday evening over at noisy Longmeadow High. The Lancers, a good team in their own right at 12-6 (4-3 in the Valley Wheel), upset the Brownies (17-0, 6-0 before the game), 55-50.

"I think tonight we showed that we could play with the toughest teams in the league, the Agawams and the Minnechaugs and so on," Lancer Coach Wayne Patterson smiled.

Longmeadow had a game plan and it didn't stray off course, nor did panic set in when at one point in the battle, the hosts were down by 11 early in the second half.

As usual, the Brownies started out with their aggressive man defense. The Lancers answered with a zone. Longmeadow was determined to play a half-court offense and it seemed to work. They were up, 10-6 with five minutes gone on 5-9 shooting from the field as opposed to 2-12 for the Brownies. Senior Barbara Maloni, who would have 33 in this one, tied it up with two straight hoops at the 9:22 mark.

But the Lancers' Maria Mosley was having a night of her own. The big and bruising junior center (16 points) was cleaning the offensive boards as though her nickname was Windex. At the 8:00 mark, she had four rebounds under her own hoop and put three of them back up for six points. She would have nine for the game.

"That's where we thought we could get them. They're very tough defensively and quick up top. And we felt if we could get some good seals underneath and get some inside help, we'd be okay," Patterson said.

Did The Basket Grow A Lid?

In defense of the Brownies, there were times in the first half when it looked as though the basket had grown a lid every time they put one up. Those misses hurt because Agawam usually gets so far ahead that the opposition has to start pressing to keep up. It wasn't happening this time.

Agawam was down, 16-14 with 5:10 to go when Maloni hit a three from the right wing, giving her team a 17-16 lead. Sophomore point guard Jill Gendron canned a deuce. Mosley got two off another offensive rebound. Maloni chipped in with four more and the Brownies led, 23-18 with

2:28 to go. At that point, Maloni had 17 points.

Agawam had switched to a zone and would stay in it for the balance of the first half. Senior forward Melissa Cote grabbed an offensive board and put it back up. Then Maloni got two more with 30 seconds to go. Agawam led, 27-21 at the intermission.

The Lancers switched to a zone to start the second half. Agawam also zoned up. Now, the Brownies started to put the pedal to the metal. Center Pia Bertone-Gross canned a jumper from the elbow area. Cote was banging Lancers in the paint. Gendron and two-guard Kate Shannon were doubling the shooter out front. A Maloni deuce with five minutes gone saw the visitors up, 37-26.

Longmeadow, behind Mosley (who was camping out under the Lancer offensive glass), came back, outscoring Agawam, 8-2 in a span of three minutes to get her team within five, 39-34 with 8:22 to play. At that point, Agawam was 6-13 from the field. The Lancers had launched eight balls, hitting five.

Not Going The Brownies' Way...

There was something not going the Brownies' way. They'd been up by a comfortable margin and the opposition refused to die. The Lancers clawed back and only trailed 41-38 with 6:20 left. Maloni drove the lane, hit the deuce, got fouled, and drained the charity shot, making it 44-38. Longmeadow's Brianna Murphy then nailed a three, and it was again a three-point margin, 44-41, Agawam. Another Lancer hoop saw them down by one, 44-43 at the 5:06 mark.

After Maloni hit 1-2 from the line, making it 45-43. LHS point guard Molly Dullea hit a three and Agawam was down, 46-45 with 3:48 left. Never in the season had they been in this much trouble so late into a game. They would never enjoy the lead again. Mosley grabbed another offensive rebound, got fouled, and hit one of two. A Lancer deuce saw the Brownies down, 49-45 with 70 ticks left on the clock.

Cote stole the ball with 50 seconds to go, headed for the lane, shot, and missed. Maloni had worked her way under the Brownie board. She swiped three offensive rebounds and put three shots back up, missing every one of them. The basket had regrown its lid.

The action at that point was intense. There

were 36 seconds left. The Brownies, down by four, appeared to be going down to their first defeat. The Lancer fans could have used a truckload of Valium. The result — a technical foul was called against Agawam. Dullea went to the stripe and coolly hit three of four. Those balls swishing through the twine had a distinctive sound — like nails being pounded into the Brownies' coffin. When the Lancer junior was done, Longmeadow led 52-46.

Maloni fouled out with 21 seconds left. The Lancers took care of the ball and went on to their biggest win of the season and first over AHS in years.

Agawam now stands at 17-1 (6-1). Longmeadow is 13-6 (5-3). The win was particularly important for the Lancers. While the loss shouldn't interfere with the Brownies being deemed the top seed in the upcoming tournament, Longmeadow might jump up a notch by virtue of the victory.

Conte - "They Out-hustled Us..."

Agawam Coach Lou Conte had this to say: "They out-hustled us. They out-toughed us. We got beat. We had some uncharacteristic things happen to us."

Though the coach didn't say it, one of those things might have been the losing of the cool at the end, which led to the technical foul.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS:

Maloni — 33 points (12-32 fgs, 1-3, 8-12 fts, 9 rebounds, 5 off); Bertone-Gross — 6 opints (3-10 fgs, 5 rebs, 2 off); Cote — 6 points (3-10 fgs, 13 rebs, 6 off); Benton — 3 points (1-1 fgs, a 3, 1 reb); Gendron — 2 (1-3 fgs, 0-2 fts, 2 rebs, 1 off).

AGAWAM TEAM STATS:

Fgs — 20-56, 2-3's (35%); Fts — 8-12 (66%); Rebounds — 37, 14 off; Turnovers — 8, points allowed off turnovers — 5.

LONGMEADOW TEAM STATS:

Fgs — 20-41, 4-3's (46%); Fts — 11-23 (43%); Rebounds — 30, 11 off; Turnovers — 7, points allowed off turnovers — 0.

JV NOTES:

The Agawam JV's lost to the young lancers, 38-28. They had a nice comeback from a 10-point deficit, closing it to 29-28 before the hammer came down. Freshman Jenna Shea led the Brownies with eight points.

For all the sports news at Agawam High School, you turn our pages every week...

* * * * *

Boys' Basketball At Kibbe Gym...

Brownies Almost Take A Game Vs Longmeadow

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

It has been a season of discontent for the Agawam High boys' basketball team. Too many injuries to key players see them at presstime with a record of 2-16 (0-8 in the league). There is not much Coach Gary Grumoli can do but put the best patchwork team he can on the floor for every game.

Last Friday night, February 12th, at Kibbe Gym, that mix and match group almost got a win before falling to Longmeadow, 62-54.

It's a credit to the team and the coaching staff that no one has given up. The Lancers came in with four wins, so this looked to be a game with some possibilities for the Brownies.

Grumoli started all his seniors because it would be their last home game. Agawam began in a zone. The Lancers chose a press defense. The respective defenses seemed to work early on for each team.

Longmeadow led 5-4 with 4:04 gone. Then, the injury jinx hit AHS again. Sophomore forward Lou Conte went up for a rebound and came down with another player falling on his right leg. The result: a badly strained anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). He will play no more basketball this year and his AHS baseball career may be put on hold come the spring.

At the 8:08 mark, Longmeadow led 10-6. But the Brownies, behind some nice work by senior Dave Strole (22 points) and Marc Pedraza (12 points), wouldn't go away. The Lancers led 15-10 with 6:41 to go. Still, Longmeadow press was bothering Agawam. The locals had only nine shots from the field at the 4:42 mark.

They were down by seven, 22-15, with 1:54 left. A 6-4 run, capped off by a nice Strole turnaround layup in the lane with two seconds before the intermission, saw the Brownies down 26-21 at the half.

The defenses hadn't changed to start the second 16 minutes, but Longmeadow got some hot shooting from the field in the form of Brian Weeks (18 points). He hit two quick three-pointers over the Agawam zone to start things out. And it was 34-21, just like that.

Defensive Letdowns

"Yeah, we try to teach the kids that every possession by us or the other team means something. We had some defensive letdowns in the second half that hurt," Grumoli admitted.

With three minutes gone, Longmeadow was 3-4 from the field. The Brownies didn't have a field goal. A 7-6 run saw the Lancers lead, 41-27. Agawam went into a press with 9:05 left and reeled off seven straight points and it was 41-34. Agawam fell nine back, 45-36, then 12 behind when Adam Derby hit a three to give Longmeadow a 48-36 lead. The Lancers would have four three-pointers on the evening.

At that point (5:45 left), they were shooting 9-17 from the field as opposed to Agawam's 4-10.

The Lancers were getting more than their share of opportunities down low because they were tough on the offensive boards (seven in the second half/13 overall).

With 1:45 left, Pedraza nailed a three, making it 56-45. A Strole turnaround in the paint saw Agawam down 58-50 with 1:02 left. Strole scored four more on two offensive boards and with 17 seconds to play, the Brownies had a chance, trailing 58-54.

But the Brownies had to foul and Longmeadow (5-13, 3-5) hit two free throws plus a field goal and grabbed the road win. "These kids have worked hard and have never given up despite the setbacks. That shows their character," Grumoli noted when it was in the record books.

AGAWAM INDIVIDUAL STATS: Strole - 22 pts (9-13 fgs, 4-5 fts, 4 rebs, 2 off); Pedraza - 12 pts (5-8, 1-3 fgs, 1-2 fts, 10 rebs, 3 off); Harlin - 7 pts (1-2 fgs, 5-6 fts); Federico - 5 pts (2-4 fgs, 1-3 fts); Stellato - 4 pts (1-4 fgs, 2-2 fts, 1 reb); Bodurtha - 2 pts (1-2 fgs, 1 reb); Ellsworth - 2 pts (1-1 fgs).

AGAWAM TEAM STATS: Fgs - 20-34, two-3's (58 percent); Fts - 12-15 (80 percent); Rebounds - 12, 4 off; Turnovers - 11; points allowed off turnovers - 5.

LONGMEADOW TEAM STATS: Fgs - 21-49, four-3's (42 percent); Fts 16-24 (66 percent); Rebounds - 18, 13 off; Turnovers - 6; points allowed off turnovers - 2.

JV NOTE: The Agawam JV's lost, 55-40. Brian Foresman led the young Brownies with 11 points, including two 3's.

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THE SENIOR PLAYERS on this year's AHS boys' basketball team (from left to right): Marc Pedraza, David Federico, David Strole, Matt Albano, Eric Bodurtha, and Jay Plamondon.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Schoolboy Sports...

On the Rink And On The Court With The Agawam High Brownies

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For the second time this season, the Agawam High hockey team beat East Longmeadow. This time it was 4-2 at the Olympia in West Springfield. Mike Schmidt was back in goal for the Brownies.

It was a scoreless tie after the first period and two-all after the second period. Agawam scored two unanswered goals in the third for its 12th win against five losses and two ties. They are now 9-2-1 in the Fay Division, leading second-place Amherst by four points.

Sophomore Tony LeClaire had two goals, upping his season total to 27. He also had an assist to give him 14 for the year. He has a total of 41 points with one game to go — this Saturday at the Olympia against West Springfield.

The long season continued for the Agawam High boys' basketball team up at Chicopee High Tuesday night. The Pacers, fighting for a high seed in the upcoming playoffs, stomped the undermanned Brownies, 67-35.

Seniors Dave Strole and Marc Pedraza had 13 points apiece for Agawam. They were playing without Lou Conte, who injured his knee last Friday night against Longmeadow. Their record now stands at 2-17 (0-9).

Again, Coach Gary Grumoli reiterated what he's been saying all year long: "They work hard every night and in practice. They are a quality bunch of people." The Brownies finish out their season on Thursday night (presstime) at Amherst Regional.

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Profile...

Mike Schmidt Shines In The Goal For Agawam High's Hockey Team

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

One of the reasons for the success of the Agawam High hockey team this year has been the play of senior goalie Mike Schmidt. Recently, he sat down with us to talk about his time as a Brownie.

Mike is 17. He'll turn 18 on June 23rd. He is 5'11" tall and a raper thin, 130 pounds. His four years of secondary education have been spent at AHS.



MIKE SCHMIDT

Currently, his course load includes English, cooking II, physics, and computer application. Cooking II is his favorite course. Arthur Gage (physics) is his top teacher. Currently, his plans for college include applications to American International College, Westfield State, and Western New England College.

Hockey is Mike's only sport. He only began playing it last year. He decided to try out last year and came out of nowhere to assume the starting job in 1998-1999. That's some accomplishment in itself. He is very serious about the game, too. "My goalie gear cost over a thousand dollars," he noted. That is serious.

His most memorable sports moment was winning the Fay Division two years in a row. He sees this campaign as something in three stages. "We started out slow, then came on at mid-season, and have picked up our game in the second half of the season," he said. The Brownies, by virtue of their record at presstime, should get a high seed in the upcoming playoffs.

Mike's favorite food is a pizza from Bruno's.

He favors blue.

A Mustang Cobra is his car of choice.

Ray Bourque and the Bruins are tops for him in the world of athletics.

When Mike wants to unwind, he'll usually do it at his friends' houses.

His choice in clothes runs to nice pants (corduroys) and sweaters. He likes to wear dress shoes.

Mike likes everything when it comes to music. His favorite group is "Led Zepplin."

"Sports Center" is tops on the tube for him. "Ace Ventura - When Nature Calls" is his favorite flick.

Linda is his mom's name. Tom is his dad. He has a half-brother, Kevin Mattson, who plays baseball for the Brownies, and a sister, Jaime, who is 19.

When his days at AHS are done, he'd like to be remembered as an overall nice kid who is not as quiet as most people think.



SENIOR GOALIE MIKE SCHMIDT, a force to be reckoned with on the ice. Advertiser News photo

by Dave Rollins.

Registration Slated For Upcoming Boys' Lacrosse Clinic

For the second year, the Agawam Boys' High School Lacrosse Booster Club, in cooperation with the Agawam Recreation Department and the Agawam Youth Lacrosse Association, will sponsor a Boys' Lacrosse Clinic on March 8th, 9th, and 10th for boys in grades five through eight.

Registration will take place at 5:30 p.m. on March 8th in the Agawam High School gymnasium. The cost of the entire clinic will be \$20. Own stick is required.

Fundamentals in throwing, catching, shooting, cradling, and game play will be taught by Agawam High School Varsity Coach Nick St. George, former Longmeadow High School star Kevin Quinn, and former Springfield College star and City Councilor Bob Young. In addition, guest appearances from area college and high school coaches are planned.

For more information, contact Bob Young at 786-8995 or the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

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For details, call the American Lung Association of Western Mass. at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA (in Mass.). Proceeds from the Golf Privilege Card® underwrite asthma education for children and adults in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire counties.

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Westfield State's Kristen Schmaelzle Scores Her 1,000th Point With Lady Owls

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Four years ago, Kristen Schmaelzle patrolled the inside hardwood for Agawam High girls' basketball. She was tough and rugged at both ends of the court.

Her talents got her into the All-Western Mass. team and helped the Brownies to the Western Mass. title during her time at AHS. She then took her talents to Westfield State College, where she continued to excel in basketball as a member of the Lady Owls.

Though it's hard to believe, Kristen is again a senior and about ready to graduate. She'll leave behind a stellar career at the college level. Perhaps her biggest achievement came two weeks ago in a game against Worcester State. She scored her 1,000th point by draining a free throw with 10:48 left in the first half, making her the seventh player in Westfield State girls' hoop history to reach that magic number. Kristen ended up with 21 points when the final buzzer sounded.

It's interesting to note that in her stellar career at Agawam, she fell just short of the 1,000 point plateau. "I don't think Coach (Lou) Conte ever knew how close I was. We had a lot of blowouts during my junior and senior seasons, and I'd usually sit down way before the game was over."

Then she added, "In college, even as a freshman, when I didn't start, I'd get in for at least half a game. And when I did win a starting job at the beginning of my junior season, I'd play a lot of minutes, even if we were up by a wide margin. That was the difference," Kristen explained.

Eighth Leading Scorer

Kristen averaged 6.3 ppg as a freshman, 9.07 as a sophomore, 12.5 as a junior, and 12.6 this year. Her point production puts her eighth on the leading scorer list in the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC). She is also second in the league in field goal percentage (53.9) and sixth in the league as a rebounder (8.2 a game).

Kristen credits her success in college to what she learned in high school under Conte's system. "It's funny," she noted. "When I was involved in one of my first practices as a freshman, I was making all kinds of mistakes. Coach (Rick) Berger came up to me and said, 'Kristen, there's no need to be confused. You're playing the same offense and defense you played with Lou (Conte).' I realized he was right. Things got easier after that. He and Coach Conte are friends and keep in touch."

Kristen, at 5'9", has always been a forward. In high school, she was usually one of the taller players. Now there are trees all over the place, kids who are 6'2", 6'3", and 6'4" in her face every game.

"At this level, since I'm usually playing low in the paint or driving the lane, I've learned you have to protect the ball on your shot or you are going to get it right back in your face," she said. Kristen makes her living with the Owls playing the post low with her trademark toughness and aggression. "Our offense is always looking to get the ball inside for the high percentage shot," she explained.

Kristen hasn't changed much physically since her days as a Brownie. While some kids (once they get to college) hit the weight room to bulk up, she has a different strategy. "I'll go in and lift, but not to get bigger. It's more a tone-up procedure for me, for strength, not for size. College ball is more



KRISTEN SCHMAELZLE, who recently became the seventh player in the Lady Owls' history to reach 1,000 points during her college career. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

physical and a lot faster. I don't want to jeopardize my speed with extra pounds of muscle," she noted.



KRISTEN SCHMAELZLE with Rick Berger, the women's basketball coach at Westfield State College. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Four-Year Winning Team

The 1,000 points weren't necessarily a goal for her. "No, it was nice. But my experience here has been being lucky enough to have been on a winning team for four years," she smiled. The team, at this writing, is 12-9 and 6-4 in the conference.

Next week, they start their MASCAC tournament play. Kristen admitted that they probably won't get into the NCAA Division III playoffs unless they win the conference championship.

She is majoring in elementary education and will begin practice-teaching in the fall of 1999. She'd like to do it in town and is working towards that end. "Robinson Park School and the Middle School are just down the street from me in Agawam. I could walk to work every day if I could practice-teach there," she smiled.

Water Safety Instructor Course Offered By Agawam Parks & Rec.

Water Safety Instructor Course: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-9:00 p.m. from March 9th through April 1st. To be held at the Agawam Junior High School pool.

Fee is \$175, which includes books and cards. Participants must be 17 years of age. Instructor is Gordon Sellick.

Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parental permission is needed.

There is a class minimum of six and maximum of 16 participants.

For more information, call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

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AAA Girls Win 5th/6th Title At 'Hamp Tourney

The spectacular season being enjoyed by the Agawam Athletic Association's girls' 5th/6th grade Division I team continued this past holiday weekend at the Annual Northampton Girls' Basketball Tournament held at Smith College.

The AAA defeated Wilbraham in a close call, 31-28 in the championship game played in the Ainsworth Gym, the home of the Smith College women's varsity basketball team.

This marked the fourth time this winter the two Division I Suburban League foes have battled, with the AAA coming out on top in three of those four games, including two regular season games.

Under the direction of Coaches Bob Hersey and Harold Cote, the girls defeated teams from Chicopee, Pittsfield, and a previously undefeated team from Palmer before facing Wilbraham in the title game of the prestigious tournament.

All through the four-game tournament in Northampton this talented team displayed their many weapons on both offense and defense. The main focus of the offense is the constant fast break, led by point guard Lauren Peltier, and guards Kara Powell, Elise Davilli, Jamie Cullen, and Julie Czuprynski. This very strong guard unit can also fill the basket from the outside when they are not attacking the hoop.

To get the break unleashed, forwards Susan Jenney, Jessica Pokora, and Elizabeth Barker provided solid rebounding and inside play at both ends of the floor.

On defense, the team plays relentless, often employing a stifling man-to-man defense as well as a variety of full and half-court zone presses. All four of Agawam's opponents were again under the defensive gun from start to finish in Northampton.

The team is looking forward to the upcoming Suburban League and CYO Division I playoffs, as well as several other post-season tournaments that get underway in March.

Both Coach Hersey and Coach Cote again thank the parents for their support and cooperation during what has turned out to be a most memorable 1998-1999 basketball season for the team.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION'S girls' 5th/6th grade Division I team won the championship of the prestigious Northampton Girls' Basketball Tournament held at Smith College over the Presidents' holiday weekend. Team members include, back row, from left - Coach Harold Cote, Kara Powell, Susan Jenney, Jessica Pokora, Elizabeth Barker, and Coach Bob Hersey. Front row - Julie Czuprynski, Elise Davilli, Lauren Peltier, and Jamie Cullen.

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AAA Girls Reach Hoop Title Game In Northampton

The Agawam Athletic Association's 7th/8th grade girls' Division I basketball team enjoyed a fine holiday weekend by reaching the final of the Annual Northampton Girls' Basketball Tournament held at Smith College.

The Agawam girls were defeated in the championship game by an undefeated Wilbraham team, 46-33. Wilbraham entered the game with a perfect record of 31-0 and had already defeated the locals in their two regular Suburban League games this season.

Against Wilbraham, called one of the strongest 7th/8th grade girls' teams to come along in many years in the Suburban League, Agawam only trailed 25-19 at the half and closed within 29-25 with under 10 minutes left in the game.

However, Wilbraham's relentless zone press and some timely outside shooting thwarted Agawam's strong inside game led by center Kristin Strole, who led all scorers with 20 points (10 rebounds), and forward Erin McLane, who snared a game-high 15 rebounds while adding seven points.

Kristin and Erin were a combined 15-24 from the foul line as they gave Wilbraham's outstanding front line fits the entire game. Captain Vicky Taylor added four points for the locals.

This was the second tournament final of the season for Agawam. In December, they reached the final of the Sacred Heart of Holyoke CYO Tournament before bowing to Our Lady of Hope of Springfield in overtime.

Agawam opened the tournament on Friday night with a solid 42-30 victory over host Northampton, another strong Suburban League foe. Erin McLane was again the monster under the boards with a game-high 15 points and 18 rebounds. Forward Vicky Taylor also contributed to the offense, as did guard Nicky Gutowski and guard Katie Maynard.

With the score at halftime only 20-18 in Agawam's favor, the locals allowed 'Hamp just 12 second-half points through a strong half-court zone press led by point guard Kaitlin Sardella, forward Aimee Beaudette, and guard Andrea Conte. 'Hamp scored just four points in the final eight minutes.

Sandwiched around these two games was a win over Pittsfield and a Saturday night Suburban League win over East Longmeadow at the Junior High, 37-22. Erin McLane led all scorers with 11. Also chipping in with strong games were guard Katie Maynard (8 points), forward Vicky Taylor (5 points), and forward Lindsey Carey (5 points, including her strongest rebounding performance of the season).

The team is coached by Ric Sardella.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION'S 7th/8th grade Division I girls' basketball team reached the championship game before bowing to undefeated Wilbraham at the Annual Northampton Girls' Basketball Tournament held at Smith College last weekend. Team members include, back row, from left - Aimee Beaudette, Lindsey Carey, Kristin Strole, Katie Maynard, Erin McLane, and Coach Ric Sardella. Front row - Nicki Gutowski, Kaitlin Sardella, Vicky Taylor, and Andrea Conte.

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The American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts has unveiled its new and improved "Ski Privilege Book" for the 1998-99 ski season, offering free and discounted skiing at over a dozen ski resorts in Western Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Discounts are also available at eight area ski shops on ski merchandise and ski tune-ups.

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Participating Western Massachusetts ski areas are: Berkshire East, Blandford, Bousquet, Butternut, Catamount, Jiminy Peak, Otis Ridge, and Wachusett Mountain. Participating Connecticut

and New Hampshire areas are: Mt. Southington, Powder Ridge, Mohawk Mountain, Woodbury, Cedar Brook, and Black Mountain Ski Area.

Discounts on merchandise and tune-ups are available in Western Massachusetts at the Colorado Ski Outlet, Competitive Edge, Wildwater Outfitters, and the Ski-In. Other discounts are available at Connecticut shops as well.

One-hundred percent of funds raised through the "Ski Privilege Book" will help the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts' community education and research programs in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire Counties.

For more information or to order the "Ski Privilege Book," please call the American Lung Association at (413) 737-3506 or 800-LUNG-USA.

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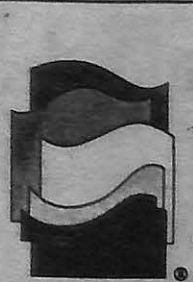
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In Tri-Parish Bowling...

Fordham Forges Ahead To Take First Place In Round Three

Well, well, well. After being in the lead following one week of rolling in round three of the Tri-Parish Bowling League, Holy Cross is now tied with St. Louis (at 6.5-1.5 each) for second place. Therefore, the question is ... who is now in first place? Why, Fordham (7-1), that's who!

Courtesy of its 4-0 shellacking of last-place Notre Dame (0-8 — ouch!) on Monday, February 8th, the team members of Fordham are strutting around like the proverbial peacock. However, let's not forget that round three is still young and things can change very, very quickly in the weekly Tri-Parish action.

Meanwhile, Georgetown (6-2) has sole possession of fourth place, thanks to its 4-0 slaughter of St. Michael's (1-7). By the end of the evening on the second Monday in February, the rest of the matches went as follows: Holy Cross over St. Mary's (2.5-5.5), 2½ to 1½; Catholic University (4-4) defeated St. Anselm's (3-5), 3 to 1; and St. Louis got the better of Boston College (3.5-4.5), 3½ to 1½.

BILL "Not Black And Blue" GRAY (134 single string, 360 triple string) led the men on this particular night, and he was followed by "Richy" RICH SNYDER (149 single, 354 triple), "Jolly" OLLY MULDER (118, 345), RON "The Don" MENARD (119, 344), "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK (124, 325), "Scary" LARRY VIENS (124, 322), and "Luscious" LOU MULDER (108, 319).

Once again, "The Mighty" DEB POIRIER proved why she is a mighty roller for the ladies by leading them on February 8th with a 143 single string and a 349 triple string. JAN "Not The Man" FULLER came in second with a 115 single and a 323 triple, and she was followed by "Sweet" CAROLINE COELLN (117, 306), "Go With The" FLO ROCHFORD (109, 306), MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (114, 301), MARY "Not Tyler Moore" THOMAS (108, 301), and "Terrible" TERRY CERPOVICZ (101, 290).

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Daggett Gymnasts Compete At Sectional Meet In Stowe, MA

The levels nine and 10 optional gymnasts of Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics visited the Gym Nest in Stowe, Massachusetts for a U.S.A. Gymnastics Sectional meet on February 7th.

In the level nine senior group, Agawam's Andrea Babbini continued her winning ways with a 34.55 all-around that included a first on vault (8.7), second place finishes on bars and beam, and another first on floor (9.05).

Teammate Leah Boccaccio also had a great meet, finishing at 32.1 (sixth). In the level nine junior division, West Suffield's Leigha Hancock used first place finishes on floor exercise (9.25) and vault (8.8) to secure the second spot all-around with a 33.1.

Agawam's Brionne Lancour, nipping at the heels of her teammate, finished with a 32.95 (third) that included a first place finish on balance beam (8.5).

Level 10 gymnast Sarah Liebowitz also had a stellar outing as she swung her way to a first place finish on uneven bars (8.75) that helped her step up to second place all-around with a 33.7.

All the gymnasts mentioned here will advance to the Massachusetts State Championship to be held in the spring.

Second Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic Slated For Early March

The Second Annual Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Clinic will be held at Agawam Junior High School on March 8th, 9th, and 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for girls in grades five through eight.

Lacrosse is the fastest sport on two feet, so come and be a part of this exciting game. Learn the basic fundamentals of catching, throwing, shooting, cradling, and game play.

The cost for the entire clinic is \$20. Checks should be made payable to "Agawam Girls' Lacrosse Booster Club."

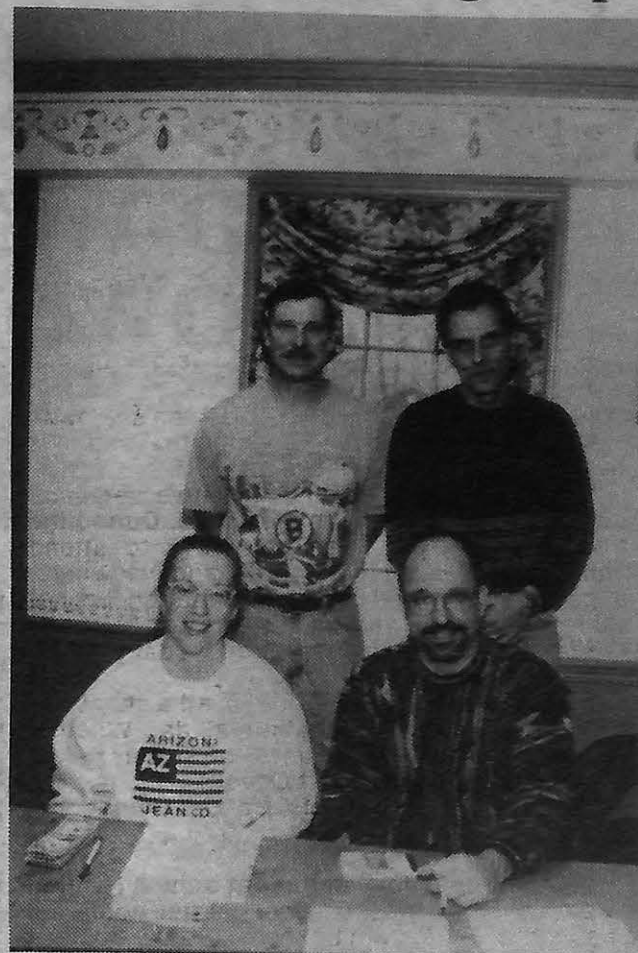
Sticks will be provided for those in need. Long-sleeve lacrosse T-shirts and shorts will also be on sale at the clinic.

Registration will take place at 5:30 p.m. on March 8th in the Junior High gymnasium.

For more information, contact Cindy Grieve at 821-0569.

Best local news!

Little League Sign-Ups



EARLIER THIS MONTH at the Captain Charles Leonard House, the Agawam Little League conducted sign-ups for the upcoming season. Standing - Ed Nawskon and Jeff Carmody; seated - Lynn Buissiere and Bill Leydon. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Sportsman Show Opens This Weekend

The Springfield Sportsman's Show opens this Thursday and runs through Sunday at The Big E in West Springfield, MA.

It is by far the largest pure sportsmen's show in the east, and its arrival is a sure sign that spring is only a few more chilly weeks away.

There will be a host of informative seminars given by the top experts in their field. During the winter, I gladly pay the \$10 or \$15 to attend seminar nights in Mystic, Boston, and elsewhere.

I get the best and latest information on hot fishing techniques and locations to go from the experts who fish these waters almost daily during the season.

The Sportsman's Show gives us all a chance to attend the free seminars that run all day. Whether you are a hunter, fisherman, or both, this is the best deal going on the East Coast.

For less than the cost of a seminar night, you can get all the great learning offered, plus attend the show.

This is the time to plan for that annual hunting or fishing trip or trips. Guides, charter boat captains, and outfitters will be there to show off their services.

It is also a great time to check out what is new in fishing and hunting gear and find bargain prices from the many sporting goods retailers that offer "show prices."

WHITE PERCH SHOWING UP IN RIVER

Anglers fishing in the Connecticut River near the mouth in Old Saybrook and upstream for about 25 miles can have a ball with white perch starting right about now.

Reports are trickling in about white perch showing up in areas like Hamburg Cove in the lower river.

While the traditional favorite baits include such things as grass shrimp, artificial combos can be just as effective.

Don't forget to fish some of the visible structure such as piers and docks, especially if there is bright sunshine. Often the schools of white perch will move to the shelter of pilings and docks, provided that they are not too far from the deeper water of the creek channels.

Tides seem to play a significant role in determining when the best "bite" occurs. Over the years, I have found that the last two hours of an ongoing tide seem to be the most productive times.

My preference is to use a jighead in the 1/16 to 1/8-ounce range. Small twister tail grubs in white or chartreuse seem to be among the most productive.

Remember to check the latest Connecticut regulations, and only take what you expect to eat. If this resource gets over-fished, we all will lose.

See you at the show ... good luck and good fishing.

SCUBA Experience To Be Conducted At Fitness First

Wilderness Experiences Unlimited and Westfield Water Sports has announced it will be conducting a SCUBA Experience at Fitness First Health Club in Feeding Hills.

Starting on February 25th from 6:15 p.m.-9:00 p.m., the SCUBA Experience is designed for people ages 12 and up who have considered taking SCUBA, but are not sure they will like it.

This class consists of a one-hour classroom training and 1½ hours of pool training. The class will meet at Fitness First in Feeding Hills for the classroom portion, then proceed to their pool.

Participants will need to have a swimsuit and a towel. Snorkeling equipment will be provided by Westfield Water Sports. All SCUBA equipment is also included in the course fee.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

4H Horse Club Seeks Donations Of Used Or New Trophies

The Mane-I-Acs 4H Horse Club is looking for donations of used or new trophies to be refurbished and used in our June horse show.

The trophies may be any size and from any activity.

For pickup, please call Bernice Rueli in Agawam at 789-1512, or Janet Pohlman in Southwick at 569-5948.

Final Sign-Ups For Agawam Babe Ruth League

The Agawam Babe Ruth League has scheduled its final Baseball Sign-Ups for Wednesday, February 24th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

The League is for 13 to 15 year-olds. Any person who turns 13 by August 1, 1999, but has not turned 16 by the same date, is eligible to participate.

The registration fee is \$75.

For further information, please call William Walsh at 786-7701, or John Debonville at 786-3588.

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* * * * *

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Hear Ye!

Hear Ye!

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Sunday, February 28th

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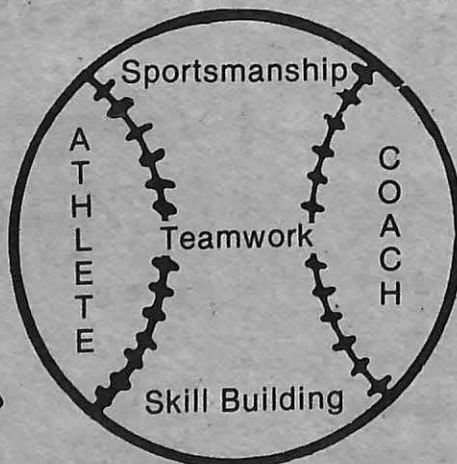
(Girls' 6-17, Boys' 6-12) - \$50.00

(Family Rates Are Available)

Price Includes \$10.00 Raffle Tickets

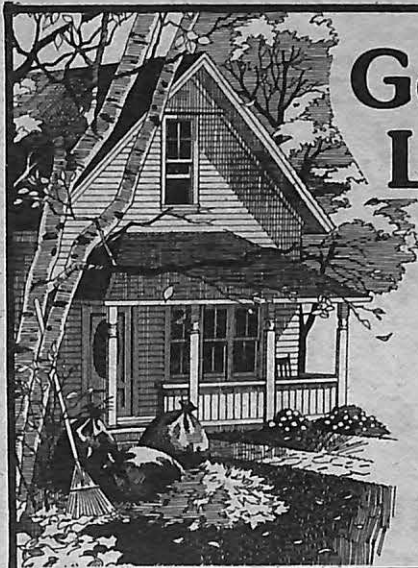
Any Late Sign-Ups Will Be Put On A Waiting List

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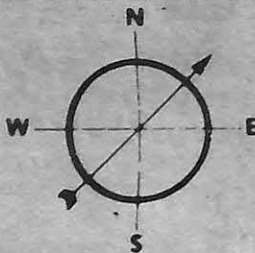
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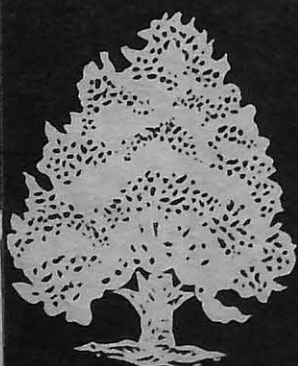
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